

NEW YORK'S
LESBIAN
AND GAY
NEW'S
WEEKLY

OUTWEEK
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GAY BATHING AT WIGSTOCK

**ANN GIUDICI FETTNER
ON CALLO'S GET-TOGETHER**

**THE LESBIAN AND GAY
EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL**

**NOOSE OR KNOT?
THE DEBATE OVER
LESBIAN MARRIAGE**

NEWS • SEXUAL POLITICS • HEALTH • THE ARTS

NEW YORK CITY OPERA

Christopher Keene, General Director

We've Got 17 Great Sounding Reasons To Come Back To The City This Fall.

Il Barbiere di Siviglia

The Mikado

Die Zauberflöte

Madama Butterfly

Street Scene

Don Giovanni

La Bohème

Anna Bolena

La Traviata

Mefistofele

Rigoletto

Die Tote Stadt

The Cunning Little Vixen

The Merry Widow

Carmen

The Desert Song

L'Heure Espagnole/L'Enfant et les Sortilèges

1989 FALL REPERTORY, SEPTEMBER 13–NOVEMBER 19

La Traviata (s)

Sat Sept 16 at 8PM

Tue Sept 19 at 8PM

Sun Oct 8 at 1PM

Fri Oct 13 at 8PM

Wed Oct 18 at 8PM

Tue Oct 24 at 8PM

Sat Nov 4 at 8PM

Street Scene (s)

Fri Oct 6 at 8PM

Tue Oct 10 at 8PM

Sat Oct 21 at 8PM

Fri Oct 28 at 2PM

Wed Nov 8 at 8PM

Sun Sept 17 at 1PM

Thu Sept 28 at 8PM

Carmen (s)

Sun Oct 22 at 1PM

Fri Oct 27 at 8PM

Sun Nov 5 at 7PM

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Thu Nov 16 at 8PM

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L'Heure Espagnole/

L'Enfant et les

Sortilèges (s)

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OutWeek

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Victoria Starr and Maria Perez
photographed by Scott Morgan

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OUTSPOKEN

What's In a Name?

In 1981 the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) were faced with a dilemma: How could they diagnose the new disease sweeping the gay community without knowing its biological cause? The solution was to list a number of opportunistic infections that were known to be symptomatic of that disease and then to say, if a person had one or more of those infections, that person had the disease. This system was logical in 1981. It is murderous today. It must be abolished.

It is commonly accepted that, co-factors aside, the primary causative agent of the disease we now call AIDS is the virus called HIV. AIDS is now known to be merely a late stage of HIV infection. It is now also known that damage from HIV infection often starts years before symptoms of full-blown AIDS appear. Many of the millions of HIV-infected people worldwide present a complex and frightening array of medical problems that can cause serious illness, disability and death without ever manifesting symptoms that satisfy the CDC's outmoded definition of AIDS. In New York City, for example, a full 35 percent of those hospitalized with HIV-related infections don't fit the CDC's definition.

Whose purpose is served by arbitrarily dividing those ill with HIV Disease into two groups? The fact is that there is no such division in nature. There is no such division in reality. There is no such division except in the minds of those who wish to strangle us in bureaucracy, who wish to cloud the real issues, who wish to divide our community, who wish to deny insurance benefits and housing, who wish to evade governmental responsibility, who wish to undercount the true scope of the epidemic, who wish to avoid panicking the straight, white population, who wish us dead. The arbitrary division of HIV Disease into AIDS and non-AIDS, (or pre-AIDS or ARC) is a sham, a lie, and a disgrace. It's time we demanded its abolition.

Recent advances in the treatment of early HIV-infection with drugs that can prevent serious, life-threatening complications make it imperative that the CDC's genocidal definitions be abolished. People are being denied access to potentially life-saving drugs because they don't yet "have AIDS," and they are similarly denied Medicaid, insurance coverage, housing and a whole spectrum of services and therapies based on an outmoded, illogical, increasingly arbitrary standard. Women and IV-drug users are particularly disadvantaged because many gynecological conditions peculiar to women and conditions like endocarditis peculiar to drug users are outside the CDC's definitions.

There is no such thing as AIDS. There is no such thing as ARC. There is only HIV Disease, a disease of the immune system brought on by HIV infection, a condition of dire consequences at any stage or in any form.

There is today no greater manifestation, either conscious or subconscious, of the direct genocidal intentions of our government against us than the perpetuation of the CDC's definitions of AIDS. Our beleaguered community should take a clear, cold look at this deadly nonsense, reach a consensus and then act up and fight back. By abolishing the definition we can help take back control of our lives. ▼

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LETTERS

When Queens Collide

Too bad the Village Voice chose to run a hatchet-job, personal attack on Chuck Ortleb, rather than an in-depth analysis of a minority newspaper that in the course of refusing to accept the Federal Party line on AIDS also managed to abuse and economically exploit a generation of lesbian and gay writers and political leaders.

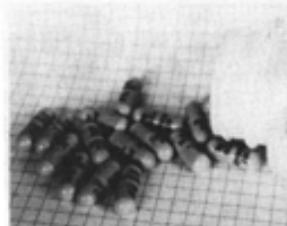
Yes, the *Native* has, principally through the columns of Leonard Goldstein, brutalized with the fury of a rabid donkey-in-rut almost every new lesbian and gay leader with the exception of a few Koch symps. The absolute unfair

and vicious slander of brave souls like David Rothenberg, Andy Humn, Phil Ryan, Deborah Glick, Dave Taylor, Tom Duane, Barney Frank and the membership of the Gay and Lesbian Independent Democratic Club (GLID) has left permanent scars in our community.

But to use publicly known anti-Native critics such as Peter Staley, Ann Fettner, Larry Bush, Larry Kramer and Alan Rosckoff, each equally controversial figures themselves in the lesbian and gay community and each with a personal axe to grind, to discredit the *Native* does cause one to ask what the hell is going on here.

There are many of us

who have not bought the government line on AIDS; who have been downright frightened and angered by the arrogant self-aggrandizing of Herr Gallo and his less than provable "science."



as, at best, "crazy."

Many of us are holding on to the small life raft that floats a multi-factorial explanation and are thankful for the persistence of people and groups like Michael Callen, Dr. Peter Doesberg, Joseph Sonneband, M.D. and HEAL as reported in the *Native*.

Many of us object to the experimentation of unproven toxic drugs on basically powerless minorities (including unborn babies) and the highly profitable marketing of the very toxic AZT with a proven limited arc of efficacy to both a population healthy except for a positive HIV test result and a population sick but too poor to buy the government-approved luxury drug.

We are very grateful for the decade of thought-provoking and icon-shattering

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SOTOMAYOR
IN
PROVINCETOWN



articles from the pen of Larry Mass to John Lauritsen. Even when we disagreed, they provoked us into challenging not only the status quo but our very own thinking; even when we loathed the gutter level headlines engineered to exploit an AIDS-terrified public to build circulation.

Rather than crediting the *Native* for its mosquito-like persistence you have chosen to swat its publisher...

Too bad... or is it, in the words of the late Charles Ludlum, merely a matter of "...when Queens Collide!"

OutWeek is certainly welcomed and most needed in our community. May it be committed to presenting the whole spectrum of politics and diversity that is our lesbian and gay community.

Jim Fouratt
Manhattan

Small Victory

At A Different Light Bookstore I told a man who was buying the *Native*, "That's passé. Everybody is buying *OutWeek*," and handed him a copy which he also bought. Another small victory for responsible journalism.

Hal Bramson
Manhattan

Alive and Quilt

I was very surprised to open the September 4 issue of *OutWeek* and discover the article titled "Quilt Calls it Quits." The headline is misleading and I fear potentially damaging to the NAMES Project and confusing for those in the lesbian and gay community who participate in the Project. While I understand the need for editing due to space restrictions, the headline leaves a false impression, and as we know, many people never read past the headline.

The NAMES Project does have a commitment to continuing the Quilt until the last person has died of AIDS, and

until the last person who wishes to create a panel has done so. It is very important to us that your readers in the lesbian and gay community know that the Quilt will be here for the duration. I would be very grateful if in your next issue, you could correct the misconception that may have been created. Thank you very much.

Dan Sauro
Dir. of Media Relations
The NAMES Project
Foundation
San Francisco

It's a Lie, It's a Sham...

It is ironic that a few pages after Larry Kramer tells of GMHC's rewriting of recent history (issue no. 11), there is evidence of ACT UP/NY's own revision of the AIDS activist movement. In the article on Jeff Levi's move to

GMHC, there is a reference to the 1988 ACT UP demonstration at the FDA. In their publicity material at the Montreal conference and in articles in the gay and mainstream press, ACT UP/NY continues to take sole credit for the FDA action.

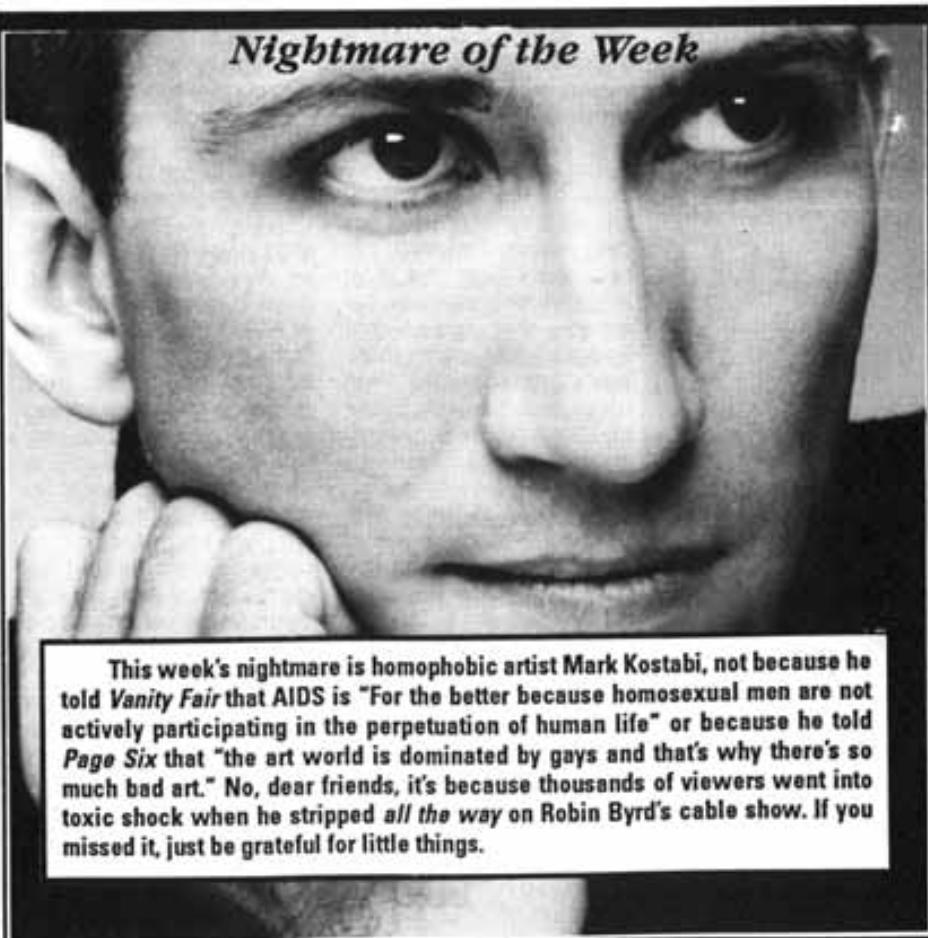
In fact, ACT NOW, a coalition of activist groups across the country, coordinated the FDA action. Participants of an ACT NOW conference in July of '88 laid the groundwork for the action and the ongoing coordination was carried out by ACT NOW in Washington.

Much of the planning work was done on national conference calls, which, though long and frustrating, allowed for continual input from activists from Florida to California. A small group of activists in Washington did



most of the local groundwork, including organizing on-site support, securing meeting spaces and community housing, preparing the CD handbook, and taking care of other logistical details. Many of the key organizers have never attended an ACT UP/NY meeting and the over 1,000 participants came from cities and towns across the country including Chicago, Kansas, Houston, Atlanta, Miami, LA, Portland and New York.

Nightmare of the Week



This week's nightmare is homophobic artist Mark Kostabi, not because he told *Vanity Fair* that AIDS is "For the better because homosexual men are not actively participating in the perpetuation of human life" or because he told *Page Six* that "the art world is dominated by gays and that's why there's so much bad art." No, dear friends, it's because thousands of viewers went into toxic shock when he stripped all the way on Robin Byrd's cable show. If you missed it, just be grateful for little things.

ACT UP/NY participated in the planning and promotion of the action, provided substantial funding, and brought several hundred participants to the action. Their contributions to the action were substantial, but their claim as the organizers of the action is a repeated insult to the hundreds of other activists who organized and participated in one of the most effective displays yet of our rage at government neglect.

The AIDS activist movement is alive and well across the country and the FDA demonstration illustrates the strength of our collective action.

Scott Sanders
Washington, D.C.

G.O. Pique

The recent revelations that Congressman Barney Frank hired a hustler present an interesting dilemma for America's gay leadership.

The gay Massachusetts Democrat admitted that it was a mistake for him to hire a male hooker and invite him to stay in his Washington



apartment where the hustler, as it turns out, "turned tricks."

Barney Frank had been an articulate spokesman for the rights of gay citizens. However, his stature and integrity have been destroyed by this incident.

If a straight Republican Congressman were caught

with a female prostitute, what would happen? There would be howls from gay leaders about a betrayal of public trust and calls for his resignation. Remarkably, the gay leadership of this country has been silent about Barney Frank.

As a gay Republican I ask one simple question, is there a double standard for gay Democrats?

Fred Olszen
Manhattan

Photo Finish

"Fright, Cameras, Action!" (*OutWeek*, August 28, 1989), an article that chronicled the depiction of safer sex (or the lack of it) in gay porn films since the inception of the AIDS epidemic, made most interesting reading. Gay porn actor Butch Taylor is quoted in John Umlaut's article as saying "...you'd be amazed who's died." That, I think, is precisely the point. We would indeed be horribly amazed.

Occasionally, one may come across an obituary here or there of a well-known porn star who has died—Casey Donovan, J.R. King, Eric Stryker and, most recently, Johnny Dawes, are cases in point—but undoubtedly many more have passed away than we're even remotely aware of. I think an effective companion piece to Umlaut's article would be to publish the photos of those gay porn actors who have died during the course of the epidemic, similar to what *Newsweek* did in August 1987. Their August 10th issue gave us a year's photographic toll of all those who died from AIDS related causes, from August 12, 1986 through July 31, 1987. The emotional impact of those headshots was devastating.

A similar piece on gay porn stars would have a sobering effect on all of us, but if it

wins a few more converts to the practice of safer sex, it would be worth publishing.

Burton Clarke
Manhattan

Return of the Native?

On seeing your magazine on the newsstand for the first time, my first thought was: Thank god! Maybe now there will be real alternative to the Native's pseudo-scientific ramblings about the latest AIDS "Case of the Week." Imagine my disappointment on seeing the article "An Alternative Treatment Reading List" in your Aug. 28th issue. When there are real proven treatments available, it is irresponsible to continue to publicize quack therapies and causations theories. Although they may be harmless themselves, by persuading people to reject those treatments that are truly effective, serious harm can ensue.

I hope this is not a portent of articles to come.

Edward Taussig
Brooklyn

Arrest Development

For me, the real message in Rex Wockner's article on the Foscarnet demo (issue 9), staged by members of ACT UP/Chicago, was not in the politics of the pharmaceutical industry and their refusal to release promising drugs, but rather in the politics of how AIDS activists choose the framework for their demonstrations.

Two important issues come to mind. Should the culmination of AIDS activists' demonstrations always be arrest (or attempts at such)? And, should such "actions" always play to the press? It is interesting to note, that while the issues to which activists demand solutions involve retaining power and control of our own lives, the demonstrations are often structured such that power and control are relinquished.

Think for a moment about powerful, creative demonstrations. The thousands of people at New York's City Hall who participated in a legal picket were powerful. The twenty individuals from ACT UP/Atlanta who spent a hot summer afternoon at Circle K convenience stores taking turns blocking gas pumps in protest of the company's "lifestyles" insurance policy were also powerful. When a demonstration is planned such that arrest is its only measure of success, what if the cops choose not to make the arrests? Power is relinquished, it is no longer in our control.

And what about the press? Certainly AIDS activists have been successful in manipulating them. We have accomplished this by being creative, and oftentimes by being forceful. It is certainly important that we use the press to catapult our issues into the spotlight. However, playing to the press is the surest way to keep that from happening. When we depend on the unenlightened media to make a point for us, we have given up the ability to do just that for ourselves.

Last October I went to the FDA to be arrested. At the end of an emotional day, I realized that being willing to risk arrest in order to seize control was enough. In April, I was arrested in Columbia, S.C., while protesting issues of mandatory testing and quarantine in that state. In the meantime, I have participated in countless other demonstration, some involving civil disobedience, others not. The common thread? In every case we were in control. We retained the power.

The power is ours, but only when we retain it. Be smart, be creative—ACT UP!

Linda Meredith
Washington, D.C.

XEROXED

Times Squares

Max Frankel, Editor

The New York Times

Dear Mr. Frankel:

Donal Henahan's "The Dark Side of Schubert" is an illuminating example of how *The New York Times* accepts and perpetuates cultural homophobia and the persecution of gay people in the United States that issues from it. Who decided that the defamatory theories of Maynard Solomon should be distributed to the mass audience of the *New York Times* Sunday edition? Solomon, as published in the Spring 1989 *19th Century Music*, in an article entitled "Franz Schubert and the Peacocks of Benvenuto Cellini," making "one of his typically imaginative laps," on the basis of possibly coded letters to Schubert (not from him) suggests "Some Disturbing Things About Schubert" (*NY Times* headline Sunday, August 27, 1989, page 38).

On the basis of this conjecture Henahan states, "Schubert may have become a child molester, or in the less elegant police argot of our time, a chicken hawk." Solomon follows up this charge by accusing Schubert of seeking his own physical extinction, merely because he acquired a fatal disease. This is a disturbing example of the "blame the victim" mentality one sometimes hears today in reference to AIDS. Referring to Schubert's masterpieces, Henahan concludes, "Someday, if the world lasts long enough, they will be anonymous."

That is a preposterous statement that complements the absurdity in his opening paragraph. "Genuine art seeks to shed itself

of its creator, ideally in time achieving anonymity of the sort achieved by the authors of the 'Iliad' or the Egyptian 'Book of the Dead.'" Apart from the silliness of attributing to works of art consciousness and volition, his is a profoundly dehumanizing philosophy of art. Henahan seems ashamed that the gods require a human conduit for their gifts. Does he mean that art should be anonymous, to remove the stain of having been created by a human being? Or is his piece a prophecy that the world will enter some bizarre new dark age that will destroy our civilization's near-infinite capacity for information storage and dissemination, in the process ripping apart art from knowledge of its authors? Will the Mona Lisa and the Pieta be anonymous in this new dark age, as well?

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1986 that gays can be imprisoned for consensual intimacy in the privacy of their own bedrooms in its *Hardwick* decision. Gay people in the U.S. today have no constitutional right to privacy or consensual intimacy. That the *New York Times* would devote so many column inches to Schubert's homosexuality and gossip from his peers in today's intolerant political environment is analogous to a Nazi musicologist in 1935 going on about the fact that Mendelssohn was a Jew, and worse, possibly a militant Zionist or cabalist on the basis of conjectural coded letters to him. (I make no negative judgement of Zionism or the cabalah. The analogy is that both are despised and defended, just as cross-gen-

erational sex is despised in our culture but has been an accepted feature of some cultures.)

Henahan's is a sleazy piece of work, no matter how couched in the coy language of academia it is served to your readers.

Sincerely,
Campion Read, M.D.

Still No Times for Gays

Mr. John Darnton

Metropolitan Editor

The New York Times

Dear Mr. Darnton,

I am writing to convey to you what I believe is a growing sense of frustration over the exclusion of lesbian/gay candidates, issues and more generally the community's "electoral presence" in your coverage of the upcoming municipal elections. As one of the three representatives of my community who met with Abe Rosenthal, Sidney Grusen and others at the *Times* to discuss our concerns regarding coverage, I had confidence, then, that what we had to say would receive serious consideration; I retain that confidence.

Aside from reporting Mayor Koch's executive order granting bereavement leave to unmarried couples (heterosexual and homosexual), the *Times* has paid virtually no attention to the gay/lesbian electorate. Even on the bereavement leave matter, the *Times*, alone, ignored the dramatic meeting, last month, between Rudolph Giuliani and over 50 lesbian and gay leaders at which we discussed a variety of issues of importance to our community and during which Giuliani affirmed his opposition to bereavement leave for gay survivors. All other papers recognized the importance of this meeting and gave it extensive coverage.

Alone among New York City's daily papers, the *Times* has, to date, failed

even to mention that openly gay city council candidates, Tom Duane and David Taylor, are running extremely credible races against incumbent Carol Greitzer (in a district which includes Greenwich Village and Chelsea) and for the Clinton/Upper West Side seat being vacated by Ruth Messinger, respectively.

I am pleased that the *Times* has done articles on other minority groups' attempts to gain representation on the City Council, especially focusing on how charter revision may effect the possibility of electing more Black, Hispanic and Asian candidates. Alan Finder's report on the Charter Revision hearing at which representatives of minority groups testified on the impact the redrawing of electoral districts would have on their representation on the City Council, made no mention of the gay and lesbian community's efforts in this regard. Indeed, FAIRPAC, the political action committee of the gay and lesbian community, testified that an enlarged council with smaller districts would facilitate our community's representation on the council. Mr. Finder's follow-up article, *Recasting City Council to Make Room for More Minority Voices*, on August 6, again blatantly ignored the issue of gay and lesbian representation, despite the fact that the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation pointed out in a letter to Mr. Finder our interest and involvement in the process.

Other papers, I have found, now routinely list candidate's attitudes on gay/lesbian rights when summarizing their political views. This does not appear to be the case with the *Times*. *New York Newsday* and the *Daily News* have done feature stories on the importance of the gay elec-

torate (as well as other minority communities) in the mayoral election. *Newsday*, on February 28, stated that the gay community is "a highly politicized group, believed to have a high rate of voter participation, and it may vote as a bloc this year." No comparable feature story has appeared in the *Times*.

I know I am not the first to raise these concerns. If the *Times* treatment of the gay and lesbian electorate is premised on a perception that gays are a marginal group, rather than a "real" minority group, it would be honest of you to admit this. If not, I hope that between now and election day the gay and lesbian community receives coverage commensurate with the impact it has on the political life of this city.

Sincerely,
Virginia M. Apuzzo

Present Tense

Editor

Time Magazine
To the editor,

Your unequivocal rejection of current underground efforts for testing promising anti-AIDS drugs is not borne out with any conclusive evidence (*Time*, *Medicine*, July 10). Whether people with AIDS are enrolled in government-sponsored drug trials, or engaging in the "haphazard use of experimental drugs" doesn't matter—they're still dying.

Yes, there will be "many people who will contract the disease in the future," but that doesn't mean those presently battling AIDS illnesses should be denied the right to self-medicate with drugs of their choosing. It's called self-empowerment because people with AIDS are fighting for their lives.

Sincerely,
Michael Petrelli
ACT UP/NY

Time and Time Again

Dear Mr. Petrelli:

Thank you for your response to our July 10 *Medicine* story, "Drugs from the Underground." We appreciate the opportunity to address your thoughtful criticism.

We recognize that there is no easy way to reconcile the conflicting pressures involved in researching and developing effective AIDS drugs. On the one hand, AIDS patients are faced with the frightening specter of death, made all the more agonizing by the unbearably slow process by which new drugs come to market. Certainly, these patients have valid concerns that must urgently be addressed. Still, time is essential to adequately test the very drugs that hold the most promise. The question of the larger public good cannot be ignored, and we believe it is important to remind readers that the FDA's current easing of some rules could have much wider ramifications. As we noted, "the haphazard use of experimental drugs may help some AIDS patients in the short run, but it will slow down the quest to discover the best ways to treat the many people who will contract the disease in the future."

Sincerely,
Elizabeth L. Wilson
Time Magazine

Dunne Deal

Hon. Edward I. Koch
City Hall

Dear Mayor Koch:

Since your letter and our last meeting, GMHC has embarked on a widely publicized campaign to encourage New Yorkers to consider getting an HIV antibody test and, if positive, to have additional medical testing and monitoring. The evidence is overwhelming that drugs such as AZT and aerosolized pentamidine can prevent or delay the

onset of AIDS and its related infections.

I am pleased that our campaign has reached so many people. GMHC's Hotline experienced a 30 percent increase in calls in the ten days after our press announcement. I understand that the City Health Department Healthline also has seen a surge in telephone calls and referrals to the alternative test sites. At least one radio station has agreed to broadcast our public service announcements for several weeks.

We understand from your August 25th press release that \$276,000 is being set aside by the city for a multi-media public information campaign to begin after Labor Day. It is critical that this campaign be implemented in conjunction with a rapid expansion of AIDS assessment centers. Equally important, the campaign should utilize individuals who have recognition and credibility in the communities you are trying to reach.

With the CDC's guidelines of PCP prophylaxis and the announcements from the National Institutes of Health on the effectiveness of AZT in early ARC and asymptomatic HIV infection, we have entered a new era in the HIV epidemic. No longer is a diagnosis of AIDS a death sentence.

Individuals with HIV infection no longer have to sit by helplessly for the first symptoms of ARC or AIDS.

GMHC is expanding its informational and educational programs for people with HIV infection. We see our role as one of an informational resource for medical, legal and insurance issues. We also refer callers and our clients to community resources. At present, services for individuals who are seropositive and who wish to have immune function testing and, if appropriate, access to chemotherapy and

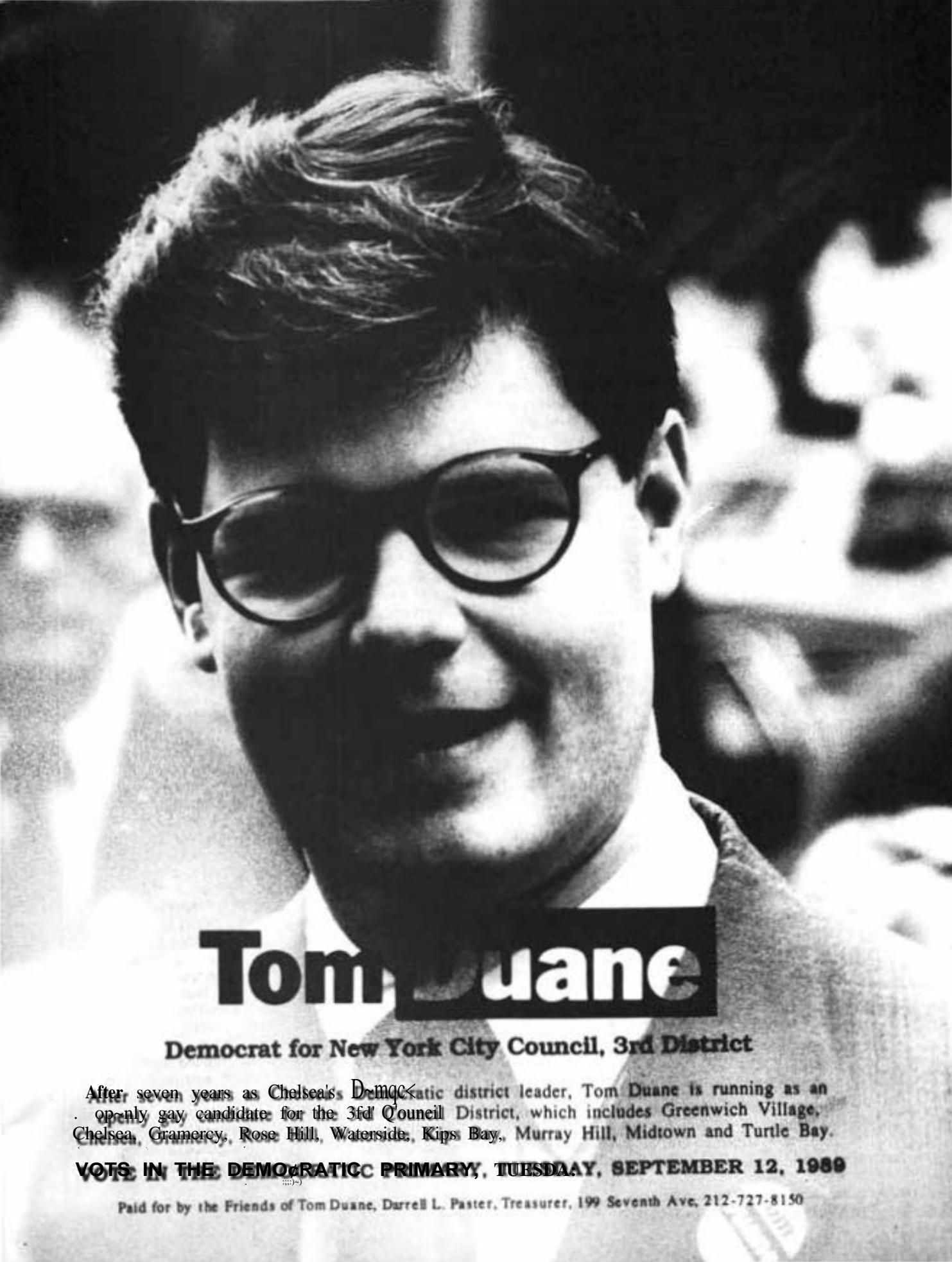
tic agents such as AZT are inadequate. Your recent announcement of a \$7.75 million initiative to expand specialized HIV primary care treatment programs is a step in the right direction which we applaud.

But much more can and should be done. We estimate that between 100,000 and 150,000 New York City residents who are HIV antibody positive are potential candidates for AZT and/or PCP prophylaxis. Most cannot afford to pay for these expensive drugs and have inadequate or no private insurance. Increasingly Medicaid and other city, state and federal programs will be called upon to bear the burden.

We agree with you that the federal government must assume its rightful role in the HIV epidemic. Our Washington lobbyist, AIDS Action, is working hard to ensure special funding to cover the extraordinary expense of AIDS-related drugs. Along with our colleagues around the country, we are pressuring Burroughs Wellcome, the manufacturer of AZT, to make drastic price reductions. We will be very active again in Albany this fall to ensure that the governor's budget contains adequate AIDS funding.

Finally, we are pleased that the city and state are committed to providing AZT and other AIDS-related drugs to New Yorkers who cannot afford to purchase them, regardless of whether the federal government renews the special appropriation that expires in September. Notwithstanding that commitment, we will do everything possible to ensure that the federal government assumes its rightful share of these costs.

Very truly yours,
Richard Dunne
Executive Director
Gay Men's Health Crisis



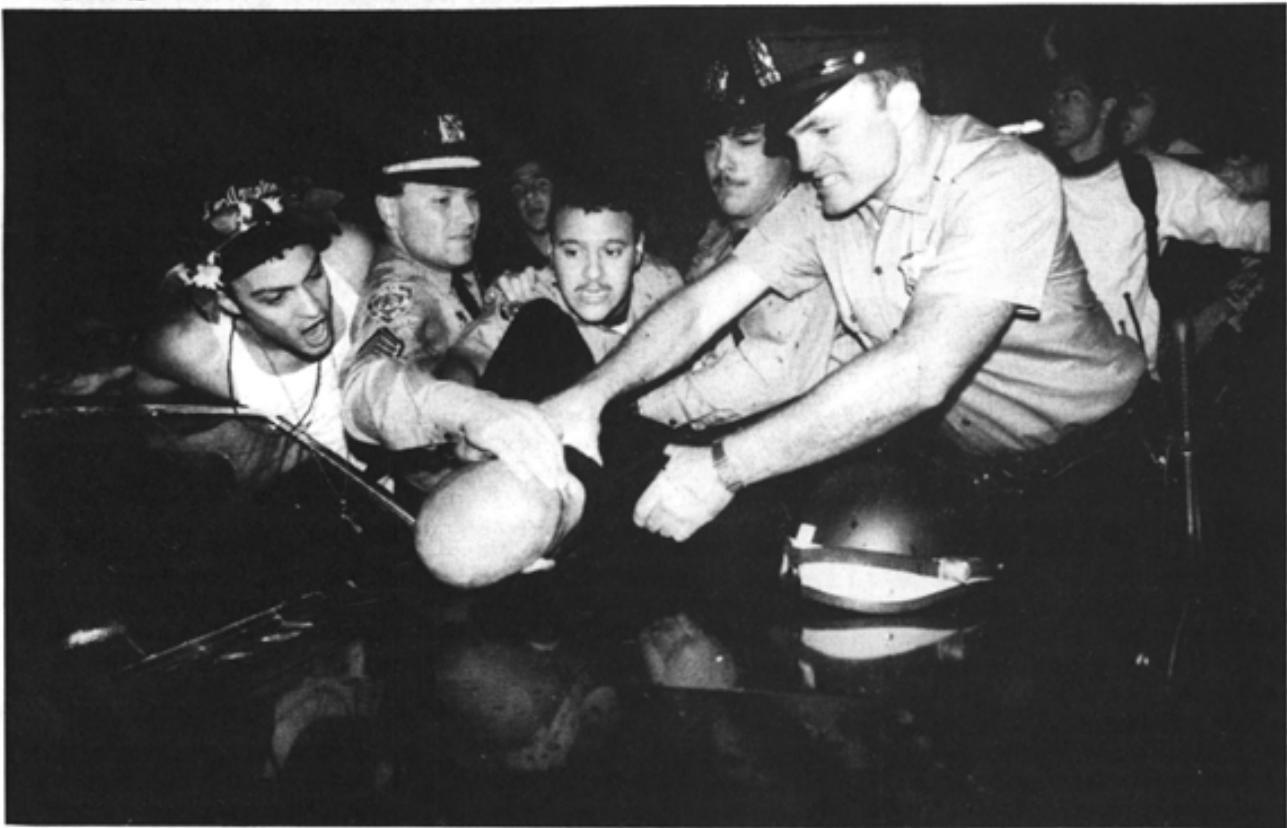
Tom Duane

Democrat for New York City Council, 3rd District

After seven years as Chelsea's Democratic district leader, Tom Duane is running as an openly gay candidate for the 3rd Council District, which includes Greenwich Village, Chelsea, Gramercy, Rose Hill, Waterside, Kips Bay, Murray Hill, Midtown and Turtle Bay.

VOTE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989

Paid for by the Friends of Tom Duane, Darrell L. Paster, Treasurer, 199 Seventh Ave, 212-727-8150



BOTTLE THIS!

Police subdue bottle-throwing skinhead during march to Tompkins Square

Photo: T.L. Litt

Gay Bashing Mars Wigstock Festival

Hundreds Protest Attack In Tompkins Square

by Gabriel Rotello

NEW YORK—Four gay men were attacked and two of them seriously injured by assailants wielding lacrosse sticks and yelling anti-gay epithets during the Wigstock festival at Tompkins Square on Labor Day, police and eyewitnesses reported. A fifth gay man who attempted to intercede was arrested by police and charged with obstructing governmental administration when, according to eyewitnesses, he "tapped" a policeman in an attempt to point out the assailants.

The attackers were eventually also arrested and charged with assault.

By first arresting the gay bystander and not the assailants, the police apparently precipitated an extended demonstration by up to 300 angry lesbians and gays attending the Wigstock event, an annual outdoor drag show that attracts thousands. The demonstrators, spontaneously and without organized leadership, surrounded police in the park, marched to a precinct station, defaced a police car with lipstick and then

engaged in a sit-in demonstration at Avenue A and 6th Street for over an hour. During one of the marches a further incident occurred when, according to witnesses, a skinhead bystander screamed anti-gay epithets at the marchers and threw a bottle into the crowd, striking a protestor. The protestor was uninjured and the skinhead was arrested.

Love-In Upstaged?

According to eyewitnesses, the police acted at first with disregard and

contempt for the gay-bash victims, several of whom were in drag, but became noticeably more attentive when confronted by hundreds of angry demonstrators. The alleged attackers have now been charged with serious assault and weapons-possession charges which carry a maximum penalty of seven years in prison.

However, some spectators at Wigstock were outraged that a major demonstration marred the famous East Village "love-in." They charged activists, particularly members of ACT UP, with deliberately plotting to "upstage" the festival. Activists have countered that those organizing Wigstock were insensitive to the violent drama unfolding in the park, and that the festival should have been halted until the controversy was resolved.

In a related development, one of the injured men has charged that personnel at St. Vincent's Hospital, where he was taken, magnified his ordeal by subjecting him to verbal abuse in the emergency room. St. Vincent's officials are investigating the charge.

Through interviews with the victims, eyewitnesses, the police and the District Attorney's office, *OutWeek* has

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY

Darren Britton, the man who sustained the most serious injuries in the Wigstock gay bashing, was in for a nasty surprise when he arrived by ambulance at St. Vincent's Hospital last Monday: a verbal gay bashing by emergency room personnel. According to his friend David Robinson, who accompanied Britton to the hospital, the injured man was repeatedly called "faggot" by hospital workers, who ridiculed his appearance while they treated him for a fractured shoulder blade.

According to Robinson, he was waiting for Britton in the lobby when Britton emerged in a state of agitation and announced that he was being harassed by emergency room personnel and would not return inside unless accompanied by Robinson. He said that the personnel were calling him a faggot because of his unusual attire. When Robinson attempted to accompany Britton back into the emergency room, the guard stated that he was throwing Robinson out of the hospital, and donned a pair of rubber gloves.

Eventually, Britton returned to the emergency room and was treated for his injuries and released. Afterwards, a doctor approached the men to apologize for the actions of the emergency room workers, admitting that anti-gay harassment had occurred, according to Robinson.

St. Vincent's Hospital, the largest in the Village, has a history of anti-gay incidents, including physical and verbal assaults on Joy DiVincenzo, a lesbian who brought her lover to the hospital after she was raped. Several months ago the incidents led to an ACT UP demonstration at the hospital, and the formation of a group to sensitize hospital workers to lesbian and gay issues. Ironically, Britton works for the Hetrick Martin Institute, a gay youth advocacy organization hired by St. Vincent's to create a program of lesbian and gay sensitivity training for their employees.

Dina Gabriel, a hospital spokeswoman, said the incident was being investigated.

—G.R.



DON'T FUCK WITH ME, FELLAS!

Protesters dismantle barricades during Avenue A sit-in.

Photo: Ben Thornberry



ECCE HOMO

Police display handcuffed Mark Carson in attempt to calm Tompkins Square crowd.

been able to piece together the following account:

The incident began in the northeast section of the park at approximately 6 pm when the four gay men, Karl Soehnlein, Darren Britton, and Alan Klein, who were dressed in drag, and Stephen Rupp, a friend from Boston, noticed that several men were harassing them. The men, some of whom carried large wooden lacrosse sticks, were mimicking exaggerated effeminate gestures and laughing. Then, according to Soehnlein, who is a regular *OutWeek* film critic, one of the men, Jose Suarez, 22, of 361 East 10th Street, "brushed" Soehnlein on the nose with his lacrosse stick. At that point the gay men verbally protested and were met by increased anti-gay abuse. According to Klein, who is Soehnlein's lover, the men yelled, "You fucking faggots, get out of our park."

Photo: Ben Thornberry

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON

The violence in Tompkins Square on Labor Day took place against the backdrop of Wigstock, a huge 12-hour festival of drag performers attended by thousands, now in its fifth year. Many witnesses have expressed dismay that the festival was not halted during the incident, and have expressed anger at the festival's organizer, a drag performer called The Lady Bunny, for failing to treat the incident seriously.

Others, however, both during and after the event, complained that the demonstrators themselves were at fault. They maintain that the events were instigated by ACT UP in an attempt to upstage the Wigstock festival and draw attention to the goals of the activist organization.

For his part, Lady Bunny

expressed sympathy with the goals of the demonstrators but asserted that his primary responsibility was to maintain calm and avoid provoking a riot. Tompkins Square was the scene of a violent police riot last summer and further disturbances this year.

During the height of the demonstrations a well-known drag performer was overheard to say that the protesters were "disgusting. They're just out for any attention they can get." At another point, a spectator climbed atop a streetlight and shouted to the crowd, "Don't let ACT UP politicize this event! This is not an ACT UP demo!"

However, those involved in the protests maintain that the crowd's actions were spontaneous and not planned by any organization. A small



Photo: Lee Schy

STICK 'EM UP

Alleged gay bashers Suarez (L), Hasam, and friends immediately after the attack.

Men Attacked, Police Respond

Without warning, the youths attacked with their lacrosse sticks. Soehnlein was struck in the face, allegedly by Suarez, who knocked him down and split open his lip. Soehnlein was then reportedly set upon by Kenny Hasam, 19, of 368 East 10th Street, who punched him repeatedly in the face while he lay on the ground. At the same time Suarez allegedly used his stick to strike Britton several times in the back, fracturing his shoulder blade.

Dozens of people witnessed the attack but no one attempted to intervene until Ru Paul, a well-known drag entertainer, began to scream for the police.

A crowd formed as the injured men lay on the ground, screaming that they had been attacked and pointing out their assailants, who remained on the scene, laughing and joking. Eventually two policemen on motor scooters arrived and were met by a crowd which had swelled to about 50 people. Many in the crowd pointed out the

assailants to the officers, who did not take any action and instead began to physically and verbally harass some of the drag queens in the group.

Gay Man Arrested First

At this point Mark Carson, a gay man who had happened on the scene after the attack, attempted to alert Officer Thomas Kidd to the presence of the assailants. Kidd turned on Carson, chased him down, arrested him and handcuffed him in full view of the crowd. Witnesses say that this event greatly enraged the crowd.

Two other officers arrived on the scene and, according to witnesses, attempted to shoo away Suarez and Hasam, the alleged bashers, telling them to leave before they got into trouble. However, the crowd surrounded the police and the assailants, refusing to allow them to pass, and finally the police arrested Suarez and Hasam and brought them to a park structure where they were already holding Carson.

Carson reports that although he was handcuffed, Suarez and Hasam were not. A lawyer, Tom Hickey, arrived, but it was not until a police inspector appeared that Suarez and Hasam were handcuffed.

Several witnesses made their way to the stage, a few hundred feet away, where the Wigstock performances were in progress. They attempted to stop the show to announce that doctors, lawyers and

See WIGSTOCK on page 31

group of ACT UP members did arrive at the scene after voting to adjourn their regularly scheduled Monday meeting, hours after the original protests had begun. Individual ACT UP members trained in civil disobedience were also in the park for the Wigstock event, many of them in drag, and their presence undoubtedly contributed to the series of actions surrounding the arrest of the gay-bashers.

Demonstrators complained that Wigstock organizers were unresponsive to the situation, refusing to stop the music and make appeals for doctors, lawyers and additional people to swell the crowd around the police. Some maintained that gay self-hate and the feeling that we deserve to be bashed, especially when we dress out-

rageously, played a part in the organizers' decisions to let the band play on.

The Lady Bunny disagrees. "It was very confusing, people were screaming and panicking, I couldn't let things get out of hand," he told *OutWeek*. In response to charges that his comments from the stage were insensitive, especially when he warned people in drag to avoid the corner of the park where the violence occurred because "When you girls dress up fancy you just drive the boys wild and they sometimes get violent," Bunny defended his remarks. "I had to make an announcement that would introduce a note of fear and terror into the crowd. I didn't want to panic people so I lightened it up. I'm sorry if people think I sounded flippant." —G.R.

News

Can NYC's Anti-Bias Laws Actually Protect Lesbians and Gay Men?

Katherine Herzog vs. The Parks Department

by Rachel Lurie

NEW YORK—Gay bashing is all too common in New York City's parks, but when Parks Department officials are accused of doing the bashing by a lesbian employee determined to go through city channels to stop it, justice can prove as elusive as finding a

NEWS FOCUS

gang of thugs the morning after a bat-wielding frenzy.

Over five years have passed since Katherine Herzog, a Parks Department employee since 1983, first filed a complaint about the anti-gay atmosphere in her office. This week, a hearing opened, not on the still unresolved original complaint, but on charges of retaliation against Herzog for filing the original accusation.

In 1984, Herzog, then an executive secretary, wrote a letter to her boss, then Deputy Commissioner on Budget and Management Barbara Gunn, objecting to anti-gay jokes and what she saw as a hostile atmosphere towards gays in her office. But Herzog's letter to her boss was met with an explosive backlash: when Gunn told Herzog to start pounding the pavement for another job, Herzog headed instead to the Commission on Human Rights to see about filing a formal complaint. A few months later, Herzog formalized the complaint, and within weeks she found herself moved to a desk in the basement, assigned Sisyphean tasks and then chastised for not completing them, and finally shipped off to the Department's Prospect Park office, what she

calls "the Siberia of the parks world." Since her transfer, she has received no merit increases, promotions or bonuses, despite recommendations for them by her supervisor.

Seeing a Lesbian Around

The claim charges that Gunn tolerated, and laughed at, a joke about a gay man with AIDS, and was overheard complaining about a neighborhood "turning swishy" while imitating a "stereotypical gay male." Herzog claims that Gunn was uncomfortable around her, and made her day-to-day work life unbearable. "The bottom line is, there was a real uptight straight woman who was freaked out by seeing a lesbian around." Herzog says that Gunn told her, "It's my hang-up [her lesbianism], but I'd like you to work somewhere else."

Herzog originally filed her complaint under Executive Order 4, the legislation issued by Koch in the opening days of his mayoral tenure in 1978, which extended anti-discrimination measures for city employees to include "sexual orientation or affectional preference."

"I was brought in ceremoniously as the first EO4 case," Herzog said, adding that the HRC promised swift movement on her complaint since the agency, widely criticized for its long delays, had "no backlog of EO4 cases."

But instead of moving quickly, the case got increasingly more complex and received less legal attention. Herzog added five addendums to her original complaint, adding Parks Commissioner Henry Stern and Parks employee Anthony Cancellieri as respondents in retaliation compon-

nents. In February 1988, the HRC found "probable cause" for Herzog's charges of retaliation starting from the time Herzog initially wrote the letter to Gunn, and that "the retaliation continues to the present."

Flowers from Gunn

Throughout the controversy, Gunn has maintained that Herzog was transferred and denied promotions and raises because of poor work performance. But the findings of the HRC show that Herzog "was highly regarded by her supervisors" before the complaint and in that time received a 14 per cent merit increase, a promotion and even a lavish bouquet of flowers from Gunn with a note saying: "thanks for all the help and the great job you've done in the past year.—love, Barbara."

Shortly after delivering the flowers, Gunn first pressured Herzog to leave, accusing her of coming on to her, and telling her, "Your lifestyle makes me uncomfortable," according to Herzog. When Herzog made it clear that she was staying put, the retaliations began with Herzog's transfers first to the basement and then out to Brooklyn, which added three hours to her commuting time. Parks Commissioner Henry Stern entered the case when he denied Herzog a promotion and pay increase recommended by her supervisor, Brooklyn Borough Commissioner Julius Spiegel.

Both Stern and Gunn deferred any comment on the case to the city's Corporation Counsel attorneys. Tom Roberts, a Corporation Counsel attorney on the case, explained that there is nothing final in the probable cause

decision. "It shows that there is sufficient evidence that there may have been a violation, the hearing is to make a finding." He likened the probable cause finding to an indictment.

Mystery Memo

But Herzog's victory in the retaliation charge was brief. On the same day that the commission issued its decision requiring either a settlement or a hearing with the corporation counsel representing the respondents, another memo was released which discussed the investigation of the original discrimination charges.

This memo, dated February 19, 1988, was delivered to the Mayor, with copies to the corporation counsel, the HRC, and respondents Stern, Gunn and Cancellieri. But Herzog, who had already waited over four years for the HRC to present its findings to the mayor (its main charge in EO4 cases), was not allowed to see it.

"Everyone got it but us," said

Herzog's attorney Mary Dorman. "It was a joke. They claimed that 'inter-agency privilege' should override Herzog's right as complainant." Herzog and her attorney only found out about it when it was inadvertently mentioned during a deposition for the retaliation hearing. Tom Crane, senior Corporation Counsel attorney on the case, did not return numerous phone calls from *OutWeek*. Roberts, Crane's assistant, was not yet working on the case when the memo was released, and declined to comment on it.

Katherine Franke, a staff attorney at the HRC, called the suppression a "political decision," that it is the job of the corporation counsel "to protect the Mayor and have as little as possible get out about what was going on in Gunn's office."

In May of this year, 15 months after the document was written, the HRC drafted a strongly worded decision releasing the memo to Herzog. The Commission noted "this pro-

ceeding has been pending for more than four years. Such a delay trivializes the complainant's interest in vindicating anti-bias norms....Delays of this nature in resolving complaints will not be tolerated by the Commission in the future."

Polluted, Hostile Atmosphere?

The memo outlined the results of the investigations, into both the original discrimination claim and the retaliation claims. While it found "probable cause" for the retaliation, it was less definitive regarding the discrimination charge. While the investigation found some "corroboration...that the Department was a place in which remarks, gestures and jokes hostile to homosexuals were regularly expressed," it did not "uncover the degree of anti-gay behavior that must be found in order to support the accusation that a polluted, hostile atmosphere existed in the Department." Herzog and her

See HERZOG on page 72



ELUSIVE JUSTICE
Katherine Herzog

Photo: T.L. Litt

News

Drug Giant Defends AZT's Price

Advocates Question Ethics, Access

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—Without expressly ruling out the possibility of a future price reduction, the Burroughs Wellcome Corp. balked at demands that it lower the price of its costly anti-AIDS drug, AZT, during a recent meeting with representatives from four AIDS activist organizations.

Responding to a two-page joint letter from 16 lesbian/gay and AIDS organizations, representatives from the drug company met Sept. 5 with staffers from the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, ACT UP/NY, the AIDS Action Council and Gay Men's Health Crisis at the company's Raleigh headquarters. Joe Whitehead, executive vice president of corporate affairs, and Dr. David Barry, vice president in charge of research, represented the interests of the drug company.

After a three-hour meeting, AIDS activists were left largely disappointed at what they viewed as the company's reluctance to reduce the price of the drug for which Burroughs holds an exclusive patent. Currently, AZT can cost up to \$8,000 a year.

"A Few Steps Backwards"

"Unfortunately, we got really nothing out of them," stated David Barr, staff attorney for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Gay Men's Health Crisis lobbyist Jeff Levi said, "We were hoping they would share with us some indication of what factors go into determining the price, and some indication that the price would ultimately go down. They did neither. They even went a few steps backwards, suggesting they weren't sure price reduction was a mechanism

for obtaining greater access."

However, Burroughs Wellcome public relations spokesperson Thack Brown called the meeting "productive," and insisted that the company had not ruled out the possibility of a price reduction. "That's not a decision which has been made," Brown stated. "At this point, the company is looking at all of the options that are available to it to determine what is the most appropriate



COSTLIEST DRUG IN HISTORY

AZT capsules

Photo: Rink Foto

and most effective thing it can do given the changing circumstances."

No Other Drugs

Burroughs Wellcome has defended its high pricing of the drug as a buttress against future losses when other anti-HIV drugs are made available. But three years after AZT was approved by the Food and Drug Administration, no other anti-HIV drugs have been approved, and the price has not come down substantially.

AIDS activists and advocates have also suggested that the company's price for the drug is artificially inflated. The U.S. government did much of the research on the drug, cutting the company's research costs considerably. Burroughs Wellcome has categorically and repeatedly refused to explain its pricing mechanism for the

See AZT on page 72

The Next Step

NEW YORK—Earlier this year, frustration with the high cost of AZT and Burroughs Wellcome's refusal to account for the price led four members of ACT UP to barricade themselves inside an office and chain themselves to the furniture at the company's headquarters in Triangle Research Park, North Carolina. The four, including Peter Staley, who was ACT UP's representative at last week's meeting, were arrested after police used blow torches and chain cutters to gain access to the room.

On Thursday, September 14th at 12 noon, the AIDS activist group will once again vent its spleen for the company which holds a monopoly on the only FDA-approved anti-HIV drug, the price of which makes it inaccessible to thousands who need it, according to ACT UP.

The demonstration, the theme of which will be "Sell Burroughs" will take place in front of the New York Stock Exchange, its strategy to hit Burroughs where the company will feel it fastest: in the pocket. Stock in Burroughs' parent company, Wellcome PLC, is traded on the London Stock Exchange, and in the U.S. over-the-counter as American Depository Receipts on the Pink Sheets.

Staley called for "a renewed path of confrontation," with the drug giant, adding, "This is the first step on that path." —Andrew Miller

There's no substitute for the real thing— Elect a Gay Activist to City Hall.



*"As President of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, I've come to see first-hand the importance of having Lesbians and Gays **in office** representing our community. No matter how committed others are to Lesbian and Gay rights, —**there's no substitute for the real thing.** I urge all of you to vote for Dave Taylor for City Council in the Democratic Primary Tuesday, September 12."*

HARRY BRITT
Openly Gay President of
San Francisco's
Board of Supervisors

DAVE TAYLOR FOR CITY COUNCIL

Dave Taylor is an openly gay candidate in the 4th Council District, which includes Clinton and the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

*For more information or to get involved, drop by our office,
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or call 212-721-0064.*

News

AZT, Condoms, and the Polymerase Chain Reaction

Robert Gallo's Annual Lab Meeting

by Ann Giudici Fettner

BETHESDA, MD—The invitation-only get-together held by Robert Gallo's National Cancer Institute (NCI) laboratory each August is a preview of the science that will dominate AIDS research and treatment during the

NEWS FOCUS

coming year. Protected from the free-for-all atmosphere that now accompanies the international conferences, 150 researchers from many different institutions exchanged the results of their basic and clinical research last month. The many tricks of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are becoming well enough understood to translate into the aggressive combination therapies that were discussed over the six days of the mini-conference.

Samuel Broder, recently named head of NCI, who described current AIDS therapy progress as "the functional equivalent of an open flame torch, not an incandescent light. You can use an open flame torch for illumination to lead you out of the wilderness, but you can also get burned very easily." Broder told *Out-Week* that there is no drug on the drawing board that does not cause significant side effects. But he added that he is confident that these side-effects can be managed successfully.

Explaining that "we have almost 1,000 drugs in the test tube to see what they will do against the AIDS virus," Broder pointed to earlier fears that AZT would be too toxic to use. "The whole point," he insisted, "is that we will come up with drugs against the virus; the question is how long a person can take them, what

are their side effects, and for how long will they work."

Many of the coming trials will be based on AZT in smaller or alternating doses to moderate its toxicity and to lessen the probability of the development of drug-resistant isolates of HIV. Mark Wainberg of Montreal's McGill University described AZT-resistant strains of HIV as being responsive to other anti-virals such ddi and ddc. The latter caused concern at last year's lab meeting because of severe peripheral neuropathy, a side effect that Broder says now can be minimized, and possibly circumvented, with lower doses or built-in rest periods.

Other reports of particular interest:

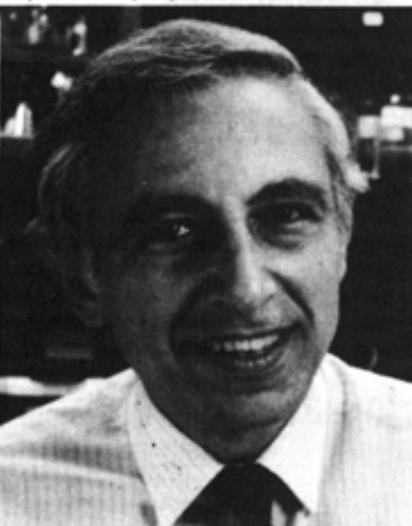
- The effectiveness of condom use in preventing HIV transmission was underscored by studies of wives of hemophiliacs: 81 percent inconsistently using condoms became infected, while eight regular condom users (since 1979) remained virus-free. But a joint study by the Centers for Dis-

ease Control and Abbott Labs also showed that a number of the women, when evaluated with the new PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test, showed that over four years, six of 13 who were consistently antibody negative are positive for HIV genetic material, but not the whole virus.

Abbott's research director, Jean-Pierre Allain, one of the study's authors, concluded that HIV may frequently be transmitted from hemophiliacs as a "silent" infection with no signs of illness. Allain questioned whether or not, in the absence of the whole virus, the women qualify as being HIV positive. These results may mean developing "a new set of standardized criteria for what constitutes a positive PCR test," Allain declared.

- In New York City in 1982, less than 30 percent of gay men with AIDS survived 18 months after diagnosis. But between 1986 and 1987 nearly 63 percent survived longer than one and a half years, according to Broder. This improvement appears to correlate with the introduction of AZT and with earlier diagnosis and preventive therapy with aerosolized pentamidine against PCP and better management of herpes infections.

- The toxic effects of AZT, as well as the resistance of some patients to the drug, are being circumvented by its early use in asymptomatic patients, at the lower doses possible when AZT is used with a variety of other substances. Combined with the powerful antibiotic gentamicin, the soluble CD4, with alpha interferon and a host of other drugs (including various growth factors) AZT and its cousin ddi, were shown to potentiate one another's effectiveness while diminishing negative effects.



BY INVITATION ONLY

Robert Gallo

Photo: NCI Photo

• High-dose ddi is going into Phase II clinical trials since preliminary patient studies have shown improved overall well-being, weight gain, restored immune response to antigenic challenge and falling levels of p24 (that part of HIV indicating active infection) after six weeks on ddi, with patients experiencing few major side effects (the bone marrow suppression often caused by AZT does not occur in patients treated with ddi). The rationale for early treatment was reinforced by an as much as 50 percent increase in numbers of T-4 cells in patients starting ddi therapy with a count of 200 or more T-4 cells.

• The nucleoside analogs (ddi, ddc, etc.) have been shown to effectively interrupt the activity of the hepatitis virus in Peking ducks (the natural animal disease is a model for human hepatitis B), the leading cause worldwide of liver cancer and cirrhosis, (chronic carriers are estimated at between 200-300 million), and a serious problem for many infected with HIV. The effects of these drugs on dually-infected HIV patients is being studied now.

• Judah Folkman of Harvard University presented evidence that the "spindle" cells of Kaposi's sarcoma are vascular smooth muscle cells which, because of dysregulated immune messages, are allowed to grow in an unrestrained fashion. Recent findings by NCI's Shuji Nakamura of an abnormal form of fibroblast growth factor, suggest that the spindle cells themselves may be creating the abnormal blood vessel development characteristic of KS. Folkman opined that "we may be able to help KS" with the new information.

As the barometer of current progress in AIDS, the Gallo meeting was inadvertently summed-up in the punch line of a scientist's joke, which concerned a molecular biologist who spent the four years of his marriage "sitting on the side of the bed telling his wife how great sex was going to be." In the same spirit, after years of promises, basic research is beginning to pay off in increasingly sensible approaches to treating AIDS-related illnesses. ▼

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News

Did she or didn't she?

Setting the Record Straight on Summer

by Rex Wockner
and Andrew Miller

Did former disco diva and icon of gay men Donna Summer really tell gay fans during and after her concerts that AIDS was God's punishment of their lifestyle, that God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve, that God hates homosexuals?

NEWS FOCUS

The gay press rediscovered the Summer controversy this summer as gay clubs faced the decision of bucking a six-year-old boycott to play cuts from her new comeback album, *Another Place and Time*, recorded for Atlantic Records.

But some activists are complaining about what they call a disturbing trend appearing in recent news stories. The trouble, they say, is that those statements continue to be attributed to Summer without proof, attributed quotes, or a definitive transcript of an audio or video recording of the incidents.

Summer became a huge musical success story in the late '70s, during the height of disco music's popularity. Her outrageous attitudes and down-and-dirty lyrics celebrating sexuality were enormously popular among gay men, who initiated her rise to musical superstardom with their support of concerts and recordings. Summer performed at the anniversary party of New York City's Studio 54 when it was a predominantly gay club.

When the original stories of Summer's anti-gay remarks surfaced in 1983, a gay community boycott of her



THAT TIME IT WASN'T FOR REAL
Donna Summer

records, which extended to a ban on the playing of her old albums at gay clubs, nearly ended her career, which had hovered for years at the top of the charts.

Dedicated to God

For her part, Summer, a born-again Christian who dedicated her new album to God, says she never said "those horrible things." In a July interview with *The Advocate*, a national gay and lesbian bi-weekly magazine, Summer stated flatly, "I did not make that statement. I never said, 'If you are gay, God hates you.'"

In a second interview several weeks later with *Hot Wax Music Report* writer Jeffrey Wilson, Summer again denied saying "anything about God giving gay people AIDS. You can't imagine the pain that has caused me, especially because of where I started," Summer said.

So who is right? Are gay writers guilty of repeating rumor and innuendo, or does Donna Summer have a selective memory, particularly when it comes to record sales?

Chicago artist Michael Kutza was willing to go on record.

"I was at one of her last concerts at the Holiday Star Theater in Merrillville, Indiana, in the fall of '83," Kutza told *OutWeek*, referring to a concert in suburban Chicago.

"She was terrific, and at the end of the show said, 'If any of you want to talk to me afterward, I want to tell you about my life.' About 500 people stayed and she came out in her little tux and without her wigs and started talking about finding Jesus."

According to Kutza, a gay man near the stage screamed, "I love you, Donna," and Summer asked him if he was gay. When he said yes, Kutza said that Summer told him, "I can help you change your ways. AIDS is your punishment and you must change your ways." She said this on stage to 500 people," Kutza said.

The Chicago artist's recollections of the Indiana concert were backed up by Chicago architect Dan Earles. Earles and Kutza do not know each other.

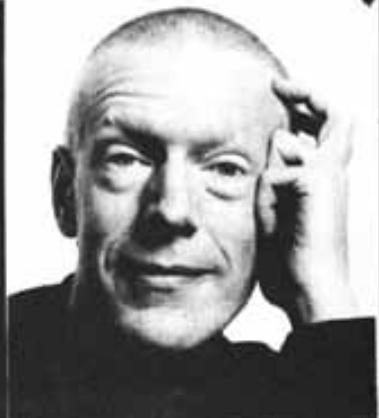
"She came out and gave a little speech that was totally inappropriate,

See DONNA SUMMER on pag 30

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A P A R T M E N T S

Out Takes

Looking for a few good heteros

NEW YORK — The American Civil Liberties Union has accused the military of violating the U.S. Constitution by selectively prosecuting lesbians and gay men for sodomy. The ACLU made its contentions in an *amicus curiae* brief filed with the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Military Review on behalf of Corporal Barbara Baum, one of several lesbians convicted of sodomy following a 1988 investigation at the Marine Corps' Parris Island base in South Carolina. Baum was sentenced to one year in prison, and served more than six months in jail before being released. She is appealing the conviction.

According to the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, the disgruntled ex-boyfriend of Baum's lover reported the two women to the military in 1986. Although a full investigation followed, no action was taken by the Marines until 1988, when the military began what the ACLU describes as a "witchhunt" for lesbians on the Parris Island base. Baum and three others were court-martialed, and several dozen women were administratively discharged in connection with the investigation into alleged lesbian activities at the base.

The ACLU maintains that heterosexual soldiers are not prosecuted for private, consensual sexual activities which take place off-base and off-duty, although the military's sodomy statute applies to both same-sex and heterosexual sex acts.

"Had Corporal Baum been engaging in sodomy with a man, she would never have been prose-

cuted," said ACLU staff attorney Bill Rubenstein. "Although the Marines like to say that 'a Marine is a Marine 24 hours a day,' only lesbian and gay male Marines are held to such a standard."

— Andrew Miller

Just say Nancy II

DENVER — Opponents of a two-year-old Colorado law banning anonymous HIV testing claim that so many people are using false names when taking the test that the law has become a mockery and must be changed.

Reverend Julian Rush, director of the Colorado AIDS Project, is seeking the support of the Denver Board of Health and Hospitals in

Dykes to Watch Out For



amending the law during the next session of the state legislature, claiming that many people are afraid to take the test. "Let's quit playing games," he told the board. "Those people may be exposing others to the HIV, or foregoing medical care altogether." The board has been a major influence in the past on public health legislation.

In an odd compromise at anonymity, the legislation deliberately does not require identification for HIV test-seekers, although it does require everyone being tested to give a name. As a result, people taking the test often give fake names, the most popular being former first lady Nancy Reagan and Thomas Vernon, the director of Colorado's state health department.

Rush had no hard statistics for his August 28 presentation to the Health and Hospitals Board. But Doug Wollard, a city health officer who also volunteers with the Colorado AIDS Project, said that "probably nine out of ten people" undergoing testing at public clinics in Denver use someone else's name.

—Keith Clark

Bolder in Colorado

BOULDER — County health officials here launched a six-week AIDS awareness and testing program August 23 aimed at groups who are at high risk, particularly gay men and IV-drug users.

Anne Guilfoile, director of the adult health program which oversees the county's AIDS program said health officials were initiating the campaign because of recent developments in the use of AZT in helping to stave off the onset of AIDS-related symptoms among people infected with HIV. She also said recent changes in policy by AIDS

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Out Takes

organizations which are now urging people to take the HIV antibody test were an added factor in the county's campaign to encourage more people to be tested.

"So many people can have the virus and not know it," Guilfoile said. She added that the county offers HIV testing without charge, and that it does not check IDs, allowing people to be tested pseudonymously. A mandatory name reporting law in Colorado makes anonymous HIV-testing illegal, and all positive test results are automatically reported to state health officials.

The Boulder county health department is one of a handful around the country, including New York City's, that offers a needle-exchange program for IV-drug users. Since the program started here in May, 22 people have enrolled.

—Keith Clark

YeS on S

SAN FRANCISCO — Because Californians regularly have dozens of propositions to wade through each election day, state and city officials have taken to giving them numbers and letters (respectively) to make reference easier. And through a fortuitous stroke of assonance and alliteration, San Francisco's proposition to keep that city's domestic partners law on the books wound up with the letter S, to the delight of supporters, who immediately launched the "YeS on S campaign." Led by local Democratic political activist Carole Migden, a campaign benefit bash on August 28 raised some \$30,000 for the cause.

However, Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), one of two openly gay members of the House of Representatives, who had been scheduled to

appear at the kick-off party, was a no-show. Frank's own "domestic partnership" arrangement with a male sex worker whom he hired as a personal assistant and who ran a prostitution service out of the Congressman's Wash., D.C. home, recently made national headlines.

Migden, tongue firmly in cheek, said of Frank's absence, "I guess Frank decided to stay home and take care of his own affairs, so to speak."

The San Francisco law, passed unanimously by the Board of Supervisors and signed by Mayor Art Agnos, has been derailed by a referendum

move sponsored by fundamentalists, including Phyllis Schlafly. The ordinance would permit unmarried heterosexual and homosexual couples to register their relationships with the county clerk. City employees would thereby become eligible for various but limited benefits already available to spouses.

—Keith Clark and Andrew Miller

Oh my God

CHICAGO — Plans by several California Lutheran churches to ordain sexually active homosexuals to head a new lesbian and gay ministry project were expected to cause "a major conflict" at the week-long Chicago convention of the 5.3-million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in late August.

But to the surprise of the 1,042 delegates, the blow-up never occurred, and the ELCA's interim guidelines opposing ordination of non-celibate gays were referred to committee without decision.

The Reverend Jim Lokken, a spokesperson for the pro-gay California congregations, has promised that his church, St. Francis Lutheran Church in San Francisco, will ordain 26-year-old Jeff Johnson this fall "with or without the blessing of the bishop."

Northern California synod Bishop Lyle Miller has responded that "congregations do not declare who is or is not eligible, [and] Mr. Johnson is not an authorized candidate for ordination."

Although convention delegates bypassed the gay ordination decision this year, the conflict will undoubtedly re-emerge when Johnson starts his job.

During an unofficial forum on lesbian and gay issues at the convention, Johnson was quoted by the Lutheran press office as saying that since ELCA does ordain celibate



CAROLE MIGDEN

Photo: Rink

gays, the real issue "is about our relationships, and whether or not the church will say that those relationships can be healthy, and that we can bless and celebrate them in our midst, even among our clergy.

Another gay and lesbian presence at the convention was Lutherans Concerned, an international organization of gay Lutherans. The group staffed a literature table and confronted convention-goers with pro-gay banners, badges, posters and slogans.

— Rex Wockner

Violence survivors sought

NEW YORK — Claire Goodman produced the video tape, commissioned by New York City, that is currently used by the police department in its sensitivity training about bias crimes that involve gay men and lesbians.

Now, with the help of a grant from the Paul Robeson Foundation, Goodman and co-producer Anjie Rosga are making a film about "the different ways anti-gay violence is used as a method of social control, and enforces homophobia in different cultures."

Rosga, the principal researcher on the new project, said she is searching for survivors of "interrelationship battering, family violence, suicide, attacks by peers and acquaintances, as well as strangers, either personally or through a lover, family member, or close friend," and guarantees the confidentiality of any inquiries.

Because white men are most likely to report violence against them, the filmmakers said they are especially interested in reaching out to people of color and women.



NEW YORK — Nearly 100 ACT UPers picketed for an hour in front of the Human Resources Administration (HRA) building on Church Street on Tuesday, Sept. 5, to protest what the AIDS activist group called "that agency's bungling of services intended for homeless people with AIDS." The activists were joined by members of Anger Into Direct Action, composed entirely of homeless or formerly homeless people with HIV-related illnesses, who are all clients of or rejected applicants to the city's AIDS Case Management Unit, which is administered by the HRA.

In a press statement, ACT UP described the Unit as "understaffed, chronically underfunded, with a backlog of some 365 cases," and unable to serve the population for whom it was established to advocate.

Two men, Bob Rafsky and Charles King, were arrested for obstructing traffic when demonstrators decided to march to City Hall. After the arrests, demonstrators briefly blocked traffic on Broadway. The protest dispersed after a riot squad was sent in to remove the demonstrators from the park next to City Hall.

— T.L. Litt and Andrew Miller Photo: T.L. Litt

Out Takes

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— Andrew Miller

Erin gay bragh

DUBLIN — Lesbian and gay activists in Dublin, Ireland are calling for international help in forcing their federal government to implement a December 1988 European Court of Human Rights decision overturning the country's sodomy law.

The Court itself has no legislative power to demand acceptance of its rulings, but the nations who are signatories to the European Convention on Human Rights ordinarily modify their laws in accord with its decisions voluntarily.

To date, however, the Irish Parliament has not introduced the necessary legislation, and activists with Dublin's newly-formed Gays and Lesbians Equality Network believe pressure from international activists will speed up the process.

Activists are particularly hoping for letters to Prime Minister Charles Haughey from Irish immigrants in Britain, the U.S., Canada and Australia — demanding that gay sex be legalized and that anti-discrimination protections be enacted.

"A lot of lesbians and gays have left here to escape oppression and we'd like them to organize and support our struggle," said the Equality Network's Kiernan Rose. "A victory for lesbians and gays anywhere is a victory everywhere."

Rose and others say that governmental foot-dragging on the legislation is understandable when placed in the context of the conflicting values that make up Irish society. "There's truth to the stereotype that Ireland is very con-



GLEN'S KIERAN ROSE (L) WITH FELLOW ACTIVIST CATHAL O'CIARRAGAIN

Photo: Rex Wockner

servative," explained Rose, "but at the same time we are an anti-imperialist nation with a tradition of justice. We are a country of contradictions."

To assist the Equality Network's fight, write Prime Minister Charles Haughey, T.D., Government Buildings, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin 2. Send xeroxes to Gay and Lesbian Equality Network, c/o GSD, Community Services Project, 13 Christ Church Place, Dublin 2.]

— Rex Wockner

MD + HIV = FBI?

SAN FRANCISCO — In what civil libertarians called an unfortunate precedent for the way confidential medical information is handled, U.S. District Court Judge Charles Legge dismissed a lawsuit by a San Francisco doctor who charged that the FBI had cancelled its agents' appointment with him last year because he had been diagnosed with Kaposi's Sarcoma (KS), an AIDS-related cancer.

The FBI stopped sending

agents to the physician, identified only as Dr. John Doe, for examinations, despite testimony from epidemiologists citing U.S. Centers for Disease Control health-worker guidelines that labelled the risk of HIV transmission from doctor to patient "vanishingly small."

Legge's ruling overturned a preliminary injunction, issued by him in 1988, which ordered the FBI to resume sending agents to the physician.

The FBI has refused to say how it learned of Doe's diagnosis, and the physician's attorneys are charging that the agency threatened to disclose the information to other governmental agencies.

Because the doctor was not directly employed by the government, Dr. Dow lacked technical ground for his suit, according to Legge, who wrote that the FBI acted "in the exercise of their legitimate governmental responsibilities," and that the agency "had a duty to be concerned for (its agents') health." Legge ruled that Doe's right to privacy had not been violated by the FBI's investigation.

Under California law, disclosure of specific medical information about people with AIDS is forbidden.

Spokespersons for the FBI declined to comment on the ruling.

—Keith Clark

PWA is convicted rapist

SEATTLE — A former schoolteacher was sentenced September 1 to a six-month prison term and two-year psychiatric treatment program after pleading guilty to charges that he raped and sexually molested one of his students after being diagnosed with AIDS.

In handing down the decision against 20-year-old David Adlhoch, Superior Court Judge Charles Johnson emphasized that he was limited by a special sentencing law for sex offenders that stresses psychiatric treatment rather than jail time. With credit for time already served, Adlhoch could be released from jail in 30 days or less.

The teen-age boy involved, now sixteen, begged the judge to give Adlhoch the severest sentence possible. "I really don't want anybody else to go through this," the boy, whose identity was not revealed because of his age, told the court. "If you let him go, he'll do the same thing again. He'll do it more cleverly. You won't catch him, maybe."

Adlhoch pleaded guilty to single counts of third-degree statutory rape and third-degree child molestation for sexual contacts he had with the youth shortly before and after his fifteenth birthday last spring. He resigned from the Northwest School, where he had taught dance and math since 1985, when confronted with the charges.

The filing of charges against Adlhoch hit the private school particularly hard because the students, parents and faculty had rallied around him after he was diagnosed with AIDS late in 1987.

—Keith Clark

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DONNA SUMMER from page 23

about how she'd been saved by God and how homosexuality is a sin," Earles told *OutWeek*. "She was real derogatory. I walked out before she was done talking and haven't listened to her music since. I can't understand why gay bars are playing it."

Atlantic City

A third concert-goer who says Summer made homophobic remarks in 1983 is New York City freelance writer Jim Feldman, whom the *Village Voice* assigned to review Summer's just-released album *She Works Hard for the Money*, and her concert in Atlantic City.

"At one point she was making some comments about boy/girl couples or something, and some gay man raised his hand," Feldman said. "She said, 'Oh not you. After all, God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve.' A hush fell over the concert for a moment, and then she said, 'Oh, but I love you anyway.'" Feldman's report on the concert, including Summer's remarks, appeared in the *Voice's* July 5, 1983 edition. Feldman wrote, "I suppose her born-again status is responsible for her sanctimony, but her mean-spirited homophobia was particularly inappropriate because without us, Donna Summer wouldn't be playing anything in Atlantic City but the slots."

Also in the crowd at the Atlantic City concert was Tom Danna, editor of the Long Island gay newspaper *Parlee*, who said he also remembers Summer's comment. Danna and Feldman were not at the concert together.

"Yes, I remember the 'Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve' thing," Danna said. "She said it right there on stage during the concert."

According to Feldman, Summer more or less admitted making the anti-gay remarks in a written "retraction" issued in 1985 following objections to her participation in a New York City AIDS benefit. The "retraction" later appeared in the *Advocate*.

Support and Friendship

"It's very difficult for me to believe this terrible misunderstanding continues," Summer said at that time.

"Since the very beginning of my career I have had tremendous support and friendship from the gay community. It is a source of great concern to me that anything I may have said has cast me as homophobic. All I can ask for is understanding, as I believe my true feelings have been misrepresented."

But by mid-1989, Summer's communications with the gay community had grown more defensive and insistent.

"I did not say God is punishing gays with aids [sic], I did not sit with ill intention in judgment over your lives," she wrote to ACT UP on July 26, in response to a demonstration at Red Zone, a club in Hell's Kitchen which held a promotion party for Summer's new album. "I haven't stopped talking to my friends who are gay, nor have I ever chosen my friends by their sexual preferences."

"Never turned away"

"We have too many good memories together to live in this state of unforgiveness," Summer continued. "I never denied you or turned away, but in fact you turned from me. If I have caused you pain, forgive me. It was never my intention to reject you, but to extend myself in love. I know that some of you really need me now because you've written and told me so. Can't we just forgive each other for this past confusion?"

Summer then quoted extensively from the section of the New Testament book *Corinthians* that is frequently read at weddings.

For a community used to hateful remarks, boycotts, and the endless striving for political rectitude, the release of Summer's latest album has unleashed a wave of emotions ranging from ambivalence to anger, all related to her former status in the community, and the good associations many gay men have with her voice.

During Boston's Gay and Lesbian Pride Week celebration this summer, activists disrupted an outdoor party hosted by The Gay Rights Grass Roots Fund when the DJ played a song from Summer's new album. A brief scuffle broke out after protesters shouted "shame," and attempted to remove the record from the turntable.

Life before AIDS

But others in the community, for whom Summer's music represents happier times, are not willing to let go of Summer at all. "All those albums came out before AIDS, or before AIDS was thought about. Now, people want to dance to her because it reminds them of that time before AIDS," said Marc Berkley, a club entrepreneur who used to promote the exclusive and immensely popular New York dance club The Saint.

"For the over-25 crowd, the music, especially old music, is all we have left. Our friends have died, the clone look went out, but whenever we hear an old song, we can say, 'Oh I remember dancing at Flamingo or Twelve West or the Saint,'" Berkley said, referring to gay dance clubs popular in the late '70s and early '80s. "It reminds them of what life was like before AIDS."

"Lip-synch to Donna"

Berkley also cites Summer's enormous popularity, and the affinity that many gay men found with her music. "Because she sang about sex, and gay men love sex, Donna was the ultimate disco diva, the ultimate idol. Every queen, no matter how butch, used to lip-synch to Donna Summer in the bathroom mirror.

"People also weren't willing to believe that she stabbed us in the back by saying such things, just like many who idolized Rock Hudson couldn't believe that he was gay," continued Berkley, concluding, "Politically correct music is ultimately very difficult to have."

Berkley also downplayed the importance of the boycott on her career, attributing her decline to changing tastes in music and to her own bad choices in record companies and producers.

There are clearly other factors besides the truth-value of Summer's remarks affecting the Donna Summer decisions of lesbians and gay men. But it is unlikely that the whole community will make its decision in unison. Some will choose to forgive and forget, confident of Summer's future support, while others will continue to call for a boycott of her work, adding lying to gay bashing on their Donna Summer sin list. ▼

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WIGSTOCK from page 15

large numbers of people were needed to help free Carson, who was being held by police in the park structure. Many complaints have been made about the unwillingness of Wigstock organizers to allow people access to the microphones to make these announcements (see sidebar), but the announcements were eventually made.

Sit-In At Precinct

A large crowd then surrounded the structure where Carson was being held, and some climbed atop a police car. The police removed Carson to the 9th Precinct on East 5th street, and the injured Darren Britton was taken by ambulance to St. Vincent's hospital where he was further harassed by hospital personnel (see sidebar). Soehnlein refused treatment at the scene.

A large crowd gathered at the 9th Precinct building to demand the release of Carson, but he had been moved to the 7th Precinct on Pitt

Street in an apparent attempt to outmaneuver the crowd. The crowd then marched to the intersection of Avenue A and 7 Street and began a sit-in demonstration. During a second march back to the 5th Precinct building the crowd was verbally abused by a skinhead on First Avenue, who allegedly threw a bottle, striking Adam Smith, a marcher. The crowd surrounded the skinhead, who was arrested and handcuffed by the police. The protesters then returned without incident to the Avenue A intersection.

Police estimate the crowd at this point to have grown to 300, while many witnesses claim it was 500 or more. Fifty police officers in riot gear were deployed around the scene. The protest ended at approximately 9:30 pm when Carson, who had been charged with obstructing governmental administration, was released and escorted by police back to the demonstration.

Additional charges against the two alleged bashers are pending

before a grand jury. The case is being handled by the department's Bias Incident Investigation Unit. Although many people present have expressed anger at the actions of the first four police officers on the scene who arrested a gay man before the alleged assailants, no one has yet filed formal complaint charges against the police. David Wertheimer of the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project told *OutWeek* that if it were determined that "there was a failure on the part of the police to provide protection to the Wigstock celebrants, that would be inexcusable." But, he continued, many gays and lesbians "think that reporting complaints is a waste of time as long as the Civilian Complaint Review Board is under the control of the Police Department."

Those who witnessed possible misbehavior on the part of the police can call the Anti-Violence Project at 212-807-0197 to register complaints and have their information documented.

Political Science Interview with a Corporate Vampire

by Mark Harrington

Glass diamonds and cantilevered concrete trapezoids stick up amidst the hilly woods of North Carolina. The building looks like a set out of *2001: A Space Odyssey*. There is a large reflecting pool which could be dyed blood red in a demonstration. This is the building that AIDS built—the U.S. headquarters of Burroughs-Wellcome Co., the giant multinational pharmaceutical company which five crucial AIDS drugs: AZT (for HIV), acyclovir (for herpes), pyrimethamine (for toxoplasmosis), Septra (for PCP) and leucovorin (to protect the bone marrow from toxic drugs).

In January 1989, Peter Staley and

I met with Burroughs virologist David Barry. He said a number of revealing things about his attitude to people with AIDS, corporate profits, coming treatment trends, women with HIV, Africans and Burroughs-Wellcome itself.

Heartless?

D.B.: We will have multi-drug regimens. The patients will all be receiving aerosolized pentamidine, possibly fluconazole, acyclovir, suppressive doses of pyrimethamine, leucovorin, so you're going to have four or five drugs for the OIs and two, three or maybe four drugs for antivirals.

Peter S.: And for \$100,000 a year you'll be able to keep 'em alive for the rest of their lives.

D.B.: (Coughs) Well, you know, I don't know what the exact cost will be, but there's no question multi-drug therapy is expensive. I suspect the regimens we'll end up with will be somewhat significantly less expensive than the leukemia regimens and somewhat significantly more expensive than the regimens for tuberculosis.

Sexist?

D.B.: What we are hoping to do is take women who have reasonably advanced disease, and treat them for their illness with AZT, and take care of them. They will be counseled to have an abortion, first of all. Many of them refuse. Unfortunately, many of them are the most disenfranchised of the population, it's often because they're Hispanic in background, Catholic in religion and so on. So we have a lot (laughs) of ethical, religious questions.

Racist?

D.B.: Eventually we may do similar studies in Africa, but we really ethically can't do them in Africa until we obtain a lot of clinical data here, because they are very sensitive to the concept that we not use Africans as guinea pigs.

[Translation: We can't use Africans as guinea pigs until we've used some American mothers of color as guinea pigs first.]

D.B.: The worst thing in the world we could do in Africa is give away a bunch of AZT, OK? They can't afford five cents' worth of chloroquine to treat or prevent malaria, OK? What price do you think we'd have to charge for AZT to make it available in Africa? Zero. That's the price. In Africa, price is a moot point. It's unaffordable at any price including zero.

[Translation: We'll never give it away over there except if we can profit elsewhere from research done there.]

—Mark Harrington



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Needles that Heal: AIDS and Chinese Medicine

by Bob Lederer

Can a 5,000-year-old medical system help treat a "brand new" disease syndrome like AIDS/HIV? You bet. Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), whose best known component is acupuncture, is increasingly being used by people with AIDS, ARC and HIV+ worldwide. Some employ it as a complementary therapy with various pharmaceutical drugs; others use it alone or strictly with nutritional and other holistic approaches. Preliminary research is beginning to show positive results.

Many Western doctors believe that TCM is an unscientific form of folk healing with only a placebo effect, or at best, limited usefulness in alleviating acute pain. But a brief look at the growing literature on this complex medical system — which includes

acupuncture, herbs, heat therapy, massage, exercise and diet, among others — shows a highly scientific approach meticulously developed and refined through thousands of years of clinical experience.

Limited space allows only an oversimplified explanation: TCM is based on the principle that all human disease (literally dis-ease) is caused by an imbalance in the body's energy flow, which moves along invisible pathways called *meridians* connecting each organ to the others and to surface points on the skin. (The existence of meridians has recently been confirmed

by newly developed ultraviolet photography.) By stimulating these surface points with acupuncture needles, heat or massage, energy blockages can be removed, allowing a gradual and gentle rebuilding of the body's innate healing ability. Herbs, diet, and exercise provide nutrition and oxygen to restore proper functioning of particular organs and organ systems.

Medical literature has increasingly

ability to withstand infection...is enhanced by endorphins' effects."

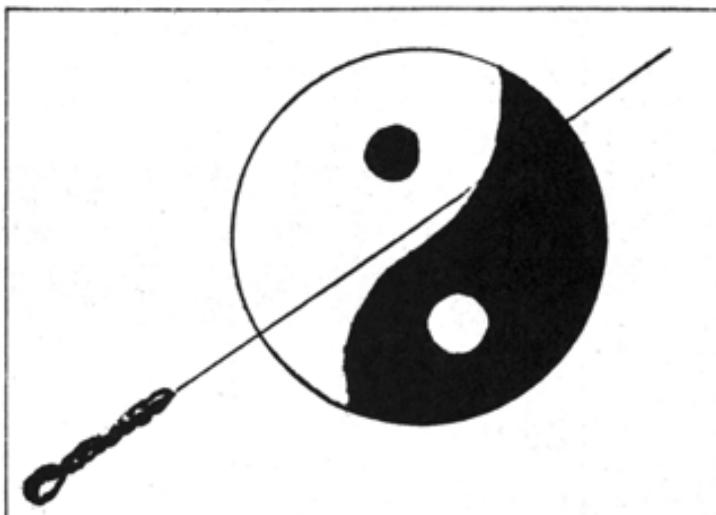
As to Chinese herbs, Sommers notes, "A variety of immunomodulatory [immune system stimulating] effects have resulted after using herbs, including improved T-cell function.... Research has demonstrated that certain herbs have specific anti-viral activity [including against HIV] and further work is being done to more fully understand the mechanism of their actions."

What have been the real world results with PWAs and HIV+ people? TCM clinics in New York, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles have amassed considerable experience using acupuncture and/or herbs. Unfortunately, their shoestring budgets and the medical establishment's hostility to researching non-Western treatments have prevented systematic studies

demonstrated acupuncture's effectiveness in such actions as reducing fever and increasing production of such immune system parts as T- and B-cells. Acupuncture has also been shown to release endorphins, brain chemicals which alleviate pain, induce restfulness and produce the well-known "runner's high." According to a study by Elizabeth Sommers, a Boston acupuncturist and public health expert, "a broad variety of pharmacological effects on immunity have been attributed to acupuncture, and current research suggests that the endorphins play a critical role. Overall, the body's

of the results. Clinical trials of herbs are underway in three U.S. cities to gather more data on the effectiveness of specially designed immune-enhancing herbal formulas. (Chinese herbs are usually administered in formulas combining several, rather than just one at a time.)

Nevertheless, preliminary studies and large quantities of anecdotal evidence—which contrary to Western medical myth, have proven valuable in suggesting AIDS research directions—have led to some tentative conclusions. According to Michael O. Smith, M.D., Director of the Lincoln Hospital



Acupuncture Clinic in the Bronx (with a seven-year track record in AIDS/HIV treatment), "TCM] frequently provide[s] relief of symptoms and conditions associated with AIDS and chronic infectious disease. Most patients report a reduction in fatigue, abnormal sweating, diarrhea, and acute dermal [skin] reactions after four to five treatments. Some patients have had a 15- to 20-pound weight gain and are able to return to long hours of work. Those taking chemotherapy often report a decrease in such side effects as fatigue, nausea and weakness." And Sommers adds, "Chinese medical treatments generally...improve certain aspects of their overall blood counts and chemistries....Neurological conditions can respond favorably to acupuncture stimulation....Even repeated bouts of pneumocystis pneumonia can sometimes be managed more effectively, with shorter periods of hospitalization resulting and decreased severity of the illness." And while far from all people with AIDS/HIV experience these benefits—those with advanced AIDS seem to have the least physical improvements—the great majority report enhanced calmness and a sense of well-being, helping provide the clarity to make other key life-preserving decisions.

TCM is not a panacea for AIDS/HIV and none of its practitioners promote it as such. But with or without drugs, it has helped many people. What is needed now is the political will to thoroughly study it and make it more affordable and accessible—particularly in public hospitals serving the poor. To those topics I will return in future columns, as well as a discussion of acupuncture's powerful, proven ability to detox people from addictions to heroin, cocaine, crack, alcohol and nicotine.

Two New York City acupuncture clinics particularly geared to low income people (and with physicians on staff) are located at: Lincoln Hospital, 349 E. 140th St., South Bronx, (212) 924-7744 x252 (Tues. only). Both have a sliding scale and accept Medicaid. For medical references on any points in this article, contact the author c/o *OutWeek*. ▼

CORPORATE VAMPIRE from page 32

Egotist?

D.B.: We're egotistical enough to think we can do it better than anyone else. We're the experts in drug regulation and getting drugs through. We have to show the FDA how to get drugs through rapidly.

Profitteer?

D.B.: All of our drugs make a profit. But I can't tell which is more profitable.

[Translation: We're making money hand over fist on AZT, but we're also making a killing on acyclovir.]

Callous?

As we were leaving the building, the VP for corporate communications took my arm and said, "Just think, in a few years we'll all look back on this and..."

I snapped back, "Not all of us will be around to look back."

In April, Peter Staley went back

with three other activists and barricaded themselves inside a Burroughs office. The corporate SWAT team broke down the wall to get them out before the TV cameras arrived.

The AZT market has multiplied with the announcement that low-dose AZT delays progression to AIDS in people with early ARC or no symptoms. The federal subsidy will expire on September 30.

On August 30, 16 AIDS groups called upon Burroughs to lower its price. The company convened a September 5 meeting with ACT UP, AIDS Action Council, GMHC and Lambda Legal Defense. The corporate line was unchanged since January.

You Can Do

Boycott Burroughs' over-the-counter products Neosporin, Sudafed and Actifed. And go to the demonstration at the New York Stock Exchange at noon on Thursday, September 14 at Broad and Wall Streets. ▼

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out of CONTROL

Commentary by Susie Day

By the time you read this I will have written it. Also, the Democratic and Republican primaries will have selected opposing candidates to run for mayor of New York City. So, by the time you read this, you, as a lesbian or gay person, may be thinking, "Electoral politics. They frighten me. Even if David Dinkins wins, this city will stay the richest, meanest city west of the Atlantic. Bigotry, greed, brutality, corruption"—and here, you begin to sob openly—"What's in it for *me*? Maybe I should just sell my futon and move on back to Allentown. Uhh-uhh-uhh..."

Oh, for pity's sake, lesbian or gay person, cheer up. Electoral politics don't have to be so glum and competitive. The FBI has been tampering with your reality again. The truth is, the mayoral election has already been held. I, Susie Day, have been elected mayor of New York City. Do not worry, lesbian or gay one; as mayor, I pledge to do everything in my power to eliminate homelessness, white supremacy, gay oppression. The patriarchy will not take place—not while *I'm* Mayor.

At this point, you are probably thinking, "That stupid Susie Day is not the mayor. She is a miserable cipher who thinks she has an amusing idea for a column—remind me to laugh.

You've got to *know* things as mayor. You've got to wear nice suits; speak with assurance; affect heterosexuality....Susie Day knows nothing; she has none of these attributes. Why, if *she* can be mayor, *I* can be mayor."



Exactly. You *can* be mayor. We can all be mayors, together. In fact, anyone who is even a little psychically battered from this city's growing racism, homophobia, woman-hating and all-around attitude problem has a right—yea, a *duty* to be mayor.

Of course, you can't become mayor until you get elected. Living in the 80s, after all, means working *within* the system for social change. So first, you need a campaign. Calling for strict new anti-crime measures is a sure-fire campaign strategy. Why not propose an upstate work camp for brutal cops? And don't forget to make up little buttons and pamphlets for yourself. Slogans such as "I Like Dyke," and "Queen for Mayor" are

appropriate. Just be yourself.

If sagging morale is a problem, you may want to take a public opinion poll before your election. I did. Like the mainstream pollsters, I interviewed a group of pre-selected people, and asked them questions designed to elicit certain pre-determined responses. Everyone in my therapy group said I was a shoo-in.

Once you feel sure of victory, it is time to hold your election. Here is what you do: Find a place where you can be alone with your thoughts. If a voting booth is unavailable, a crowded subway car will do. When you are ready, spin around three times, flap your arms like a chicken, then, while trying to touch the tip of your nose with your tongue, say, "Now I am the mayor." That's it. You've won! Show emotion. Accept.

Next morning, have a little ticker tape parade for yourself all around your apartment. My, that was fun. Now, sit down at your breakfast table and pick up the newspaper. Read that the city of New York has provided only 62 beds for an estimated 5,000 homeless city residents with AIDS. Slam your paper down on the table and say, "Not while I'm mayor!" Be commanding. After all, just who does Ed Koch think he is?

Now put on your mayor suit and call the other self-elected New York City mayors together for a conference. This will have to be a mighty big conference. There should be all kinds of people there, of all colors, sizes, sexes, shapes, ages, astrological signs. The ideal Stevie Wonder concert.

OK. We're at the conference. Keynote speakers are David Dinkins and Ruth Messinger. Childcare is provided by Tom Duane and Dave Taylor. Things are looking up. Oh, don't think we all like each other right away. This is New York, please remember. Feelings emerge. Then factions. For awhile, it looks like all the mayors hate all the other mayors' guts. Research

See OUT OF CONTROL on page 78

I am proud of my 20-year history of support for full equality for lesbians and gay men. As Special Assistant to Mayor Lindsay, I served as the first City Hall liaison to the lesbian and gay community; secured the first Executive Order protecting the rights of lesbian and gay city workers; helped draft the first lesbian and gay civil rights legislation; coordinated the efforts of the City's Police Department and the Mayor's office to arrange the first gay pride marches; and brought together the NYPD and members of the gay community to work to end police harassment in the wake of the Stonewall rebellion.

"As Director of the New York State Division for Women from 1983 to 1985, I fought for lesbians and gay men, people with AIDS and lesbian and gay adolescents. I also actively served on the Governor's Task Force on Lesbian and Gay issues.

"As a member of the Women and AIDS Resource Network (WARN), I know too well the desperate shortage of AIDS prevention and health services. As Council Member, I will lead the fight for greatly intensified AIDS education and outreach to women, drug abusers, adolescents, and gay and bisexual men. I will also fight for expanded services for persons with HIV/AIDS, including scattered site

Ronnie Eldridge's long and unwavering commitment to liberal values, her very sophisticated understanding of politics, her first-rate analytical intelligence—these qualities make her a great asset for those of us who want to continue the fight for humane, progressive government. She and a City Council seat will go exceedingly well together.

U.S. Rep. Barney Frank

housing, primary care clinics, day treatment centers and case management staff.

"I will sponsor domestic partnership legislation to provide unmarried partners, including lesbian and gay couples, the spousal privileges and benefits granted married couples. I'll increase funding for the human rights

commission so that complaints of discrimination can be aggressively investigated. This will help ensure that Local Law 2 is properly enforced.

"I am a longtime friend of the lesbian and gay community. I will continue to be a vocal advocate and spokesperson for lesbians and gay men. I look forward to working with you and representing you in the City Council from the West Side's 4th District."



Pad for the Committee to Elect Ronnie Eldridge to the City Council, Matt Wise, treasurer. Photo by C.M. Hirsch.

**Ronnie Eldridge
FOR CITY COUNCIL**

Tying the Knot (Noose?)

Sarah Pettit on the Current Phenomenon



In a climactic scene from last year's film *Fatal Attraction*, Glenn Close approaches the window of Michael Douglas' serene, suburban home. Peering through the pane, she is witness to a moment of conjugal bliss and familial unity: crouched on the carpet before the hearth, husband and wife sit in rapture as their daughter receives a birthday bunny. Averting her eyes in a blaze of mortification, Ms. Close leans into the low-lying shrubbery and has a good chunder.

While this film might not command our attention for any other compelling reasons, the above-mentioned celluloid moment is, indeed, jarring. It collects in a rather succinct and frozen instant the many ambivalences or resistances that happy, heterosexual unions can elicit. On one side of the pane rests the ideal, the archetype, with all of its codes, compromises and rewards. On the other, horror, refusal and fear tremble and wretch in disgust.

Marriage, family, monogamy, the warm bosom of domesticity—they're bound to land some of us in the living room, some of us in the bushes and some of us perched on the sill in indecision.

So, what of lesbian marriage? Is it an entirely different set of questions, another kettle of fish so-to-speak, or do we inevitably confront a similar constellation of issues? To answer these riddles and more, I turned to the ever-eager and able members of the sisterhood. They provided answers and insights, while also exposing this issue to be the complicated merging of opinion that it is.

Lesbians have been packing up and shacking up as long as I can remember. In the last several years, however, there seems to have been a profound subterranean shift. In 1987, I was invited to my first lesbian wedding. It was held in a middle-sized Eastern town with a progressive gay community. On a sunny Saturday afternoon we gathered in the proud mother's backyard. Her daughter, a restaurateur in her thirties, was to wed



a woman of a similar age, a professor and the mother of a young son. Having never attended any such ceremony, I had few expectations, but found myself moved by its simplicity and honesty. The assembled friends and family looked on as a rabbinical student aided with the exchange of vows. Several guests were encouraged to add words and thoughts, much in the form of an open meeting. Afterwards, a large party with food and dancing was held at the restaurant. Little over a year later, I heard the couple had split up. One woman retained the house, the son continued to visit with his "second" mom, the rest dissolved.

More recently, two young urban professional acquaintances tied the knot. Their marriage, however, entailed no public ceremony. There was an exchange of rings, a commitment to monogamy, and a shared down payment on a co-op. After a year's time, this union too dissolved into adieu. As with the other marriage, there was not a great deal of legal or financial settlement necessary; having never been "officially" sanctioned as a couple, there was no transaction required to unbind them. The loosening of ties seemed, rather, to occur more profoundly on the private and personal side.

What marks both of these lesbian marriages is the rapidity with which they were embarked upon. In the last year, I have encountered several couples who have married or become engaged, but they have done so after a longer acquaintance. This past spring, two were married just prior to their university graduation. In a campus, college-funded social club, they stood in similar black gowns and exchanged vows. Among

their bridesmaids was a woman who had been the lover of one of the betrothed—after a number of years of monogamy, they had agreed to a period of non-monogamy prior to the wedding. As with the two couples cited earlier, their stated commitment is to now joined in an exclusive, closed relationship.

Speaking recently with two friends who have become engaged after a year and a half together, I sought to unearth some of the intricacies of these arrangements. They cited a similar array of concerns and expectations as the other

before, it is the vital and sustaining support of the community of friends which most matters to the marriage. Amy commented, "Friends are validating. They help to reinforce a commitment." When it comes to the marriage she imagines "a romantic image. We're all up on a mountaintop. We've hiked up and we're feeling on top."

Does one turn at this point and wretch into the shrubbery? One can, but that is to view things too narrowly. These gals are not wrapped up in some pert, Stepfordian happy homemaking bonanza.

They are saucy, irreverent and like to show a lot of midriff. As Amy added, "I'm no crunchy-chewy. Of course, we expect difficulties. It's hard to plan past the next day, but I believe in ritual, in ceremony. I think gay ceremony passes and surpasses

what straights do, because it must of necessity be spiritual. It says, I love you with all my heart."

And spiritual it must continue to be until the legal landscape of this country changes to include gay marriage (don't hold your breath). At the present time all of these marriages, these ceremonies, are no more than the construction of the parties involved. They are rituals and vows based on agreements between two women, which carry no legal weight. As can be seen, they vary in their degree of success. But this, on the other hand, may be their virtue. Without the chains of the legal dimensions, they do perhaps more realistically allow for the forming and dissolving of bonds as they occur. These commitments are sustained as long as they work and seem not to get bogged down in the impropriety of admitting they can fail.

Marriage, family, monogamy, the warm bosom of domesticity — they're bound to land some of us in the living room, some of us in the bushes and some of us perched on the sill in indecision.

lesbian newlyweds. Amy and Ivonne found each other after some searching. In their relationship is, undoubtedly, something rare and unique which compels them to look more closely at long-range commitment and devotion. They want to make a statement, to engage in some sort of ritual, which will identify their bond as serious and exclusive. As in the other cases, exclusivity implies monogamy and entails the sharing of an apartment and the splitting of financial burdens.

What is interesting and complex about their arrangement, and their anticipated wedding, is the degree to which it turns out from itself and its exclusivity to engage their friends and community. Shortly after exchanging rings (which, incidentally, they wear on the right rather than the left hand), they held a party for their closest friends. Here, as

So, Call Me Married

by Ashley McNeely

If you can believe it, my lover got down on her knees, presented me with a ring and asked me to marry her. Actually, I gave her one too. And actually, she did not ask me if I would "marry" her, but if I "would love her forever." The question was rhetorical. She wasn't nervous, wondering whether I would answer yes or no, because we both knew the long future of our relationship. But she did ask me, and I her, in the spirit of ritual and ceremony, in which abstract concepts such as "eternal love" are made concrete through human actions. To place a ring on her finger, and to have her place a ring on mine, was to believe in our commitment, and tell the world to believe in it too.

It's not easy for two gay people to create a lasting relationship in a homophobic world. Although we both see this relationship as permanent, are we "married"? Very little around us endorses our love. No one is saying, "congratulations! Good luck to you!" Even when I showed my mother my new rings, she looked at them as if they were some kind of joke. Who do we think we are anyway, playing at marriage like it's our prerogative? This kind of response, more familiar to me by now than any kind of jubilation, has made me more and more certain that the statement my lover and I make to the world is both personally and politically crucial.

Although we may borrow some of the marriage terminology, we do not embrace the traditional definitions of the words we use. Or, rather, we cannot, because we do not fit into the narrow scope of their meanings. Marriage, in accordance with the law, must be between a man and a woman. The institution of marriage is predicated on the production of children with shared genes. As infuriating as this heterosexist notion of marriage is, I find it to be strangely beneficial. It helps me to define what I do *not* want to be, that is, part of the traditional



social construct of marriage, laden with power dynamics, inequalities and sexual roles. From this I have learned what I do want to be—happy, in love, secure, financially independent and a parent. How and when I do this is another question altogether, but one thing is for sure: in order to achieve these ends I need a permanent partner to help me. And a permanent, loving, sexual relationship between two people in this world is called, despite my semantic difficulties with the term, a marriage. So, call me married.

Lesbians have few positive role models right now in the pursuit of happy marriages. If we are paving the way for future lesbians, than I am glad. Our choice to marry will probably not gain us the benefits available to heterosexuals—insurance advantages, tax breaks, reduced family fares, social sanctions—in our lifetimes. I hope that our neighbors, co-workers

and families will become enlightened as a result of knowing us, but I can't count on this. What I know our marriage will do, on a personal level, is allow us to differentiate this relationship from previous ones in our lives in terms of commitment, trust and love through the promise of monogamy. And it will provide a secure base from which to face an extremely hostile world.

Although gay rights laws such as San Francisco's and New York's domestic partnership initiative would provide the first step in public recognition of gay relationships, this kind of law might also create rifts in the gay community. As it stands, we're all out in the cold, so we're all fighting for acceptance and respect from more or less the same vantage point. But stipulations such as length of the relationship and proof of economic interdependence could create a hierarchy like that of the dating-engagement-marriage progression for heterosexuals.

uals in which each step is increasingly validated. I certainly don't consider my relationship more likely to succeed than that of another couple who chooses not to wear rings or have a ceremony. I know that I have to go through the rituals that will encourage us to work through the hard times. With so much against us in the world, at least we will have made vows that I can hold on to. This is what will make the difference for us, not laws.

We are now in the process of planning a wedding, which will really be a big anniversary party with some vows thrown in, even though we exchanged the rings two years ago. But did our spontaneous, private exchange that night constitute a wedding? Yes, because we made promises then that we plan to keep. But also no, because it was not public, nor particularly spiritual, both of which we want our wedding party to be. Weddings represent the coming together of two people in the public eye, just as much as they are a private union. The combined good will of the congregated family and friends provides the groundwork from which the couple can build. We have already started to build a life together, we have put a lot of energy into each other and now we feel we deserve to celebrate this fact.

But by having an actual wedding we place ourselves in a theoretical dilemma: we want our relationship to be recognized as serious, yet by doing so are we potentially perpetuating the assumption that married relationships are the only valid relationships? How do we get around this? The ceremony will include only very few people, and the emphasis will be on the party. We will write our own vows. We will both wear pants. Our parents won't pay for the festivities. We don't intend to go on a honeymoon, nor do we expect gifts. We won't publicize the event excessively beforehand or mark it as a major turning point in our history together.

Certainly a wedding will not change the basic tenets of our relationship—honesty, equality, compassion and monogamy. The long-term prospect of the latter, the core of a traditional marriage, is not threatening to us. The tumult of affairs is exhausting and unfulfilling when compared with the greater (though sometimes more terrifying) intimacy of a committed relationship.

In addition to the fact that I rarely, if ever, see another woman I'm attracted to, I wouldn't want to risk losing my lover's trust. For her, sexual expression is the ultimate confidence, and a potential affair, the ultimate betrayal. I respect this in her just as she respects certain needs of mine. This is why our relationship works, and why I already consider myself married. The wedding itself is just frivolity, if you look at it this way.

The conflicts presented here between the positive aspects of marriage and the dangers of assimilation define one of the major challenges in my life right now. Our desire for a romantic celebration cannot be separated from the political implications of our actions. But this struggle, within the gay community and against the patriarchal construct, helps us all to move toward a world where diversity is celebrated rather than feared.

What I know our marriage will do, on a personal level, is allow us to differentiate this relationship from previous ones

Just Say No!

by Catherine Saalfield

I've been away all weekend in the woods with my lover, mid-summer. It's really hot, sweltering and clearly another difficult Sunday night transition for all of us: me, the woman I just spent this intimate relaxing time with and her other lover. We are trying to work out what it means to us to do things differently, to try a difference which makes sense in our separate lives. And it is a commitment. We are forced to do it without knee-jerk responses to social conditioning. In other words, it's never good enough to cull examples from Hollywood dictates, pull punches from inappropriate sexual hierarchies, or relax into the patterns of "desirable but insensitive Casanova," "reliable but nagging Wife," "fun but unimportant Affair." Our sheer exhaustion, four-capsule headaches, impromptu tantrums and so much anxiety reflect our lack of role-models and an overwhelming dearth of support. Even "comrades" in other struggles casually and destructively play us off each other with no regard for the time and love put into our work. Indeed, sometimes I feel like Sisyphus pushing another damn rock up the hill.

This afternoon, our car ran out of gas before we even left the farmhouse for the city. So, we're a couple of hours late back into town, again. She's preoccupied with her tardiness and explanations when we say goodbye in front of my house. Transitions are no one's forte, and I'm wretched into those all-too-familiar tailspins over quickly rearranged puzzle pieces. Nonetheless, in the scheme of things, this is where and when I step out. She's got a night ahead of her with someone she hasn't seen in a while, and undoubtedly more work to do. I've got roommates but no one is home right now. The first phone message blares into a quiet

room, breathy, frantic, a dyke: "This is for anyone, for all of you, even for just one, is it...like...it is OK for a P.C. person to...like...be married, to...like...want a house in the woods with 2.8 kids? I wanna ask you is it fucked up, is that it? You tell me what's goin' on. Ok?" Good questions. Yeah, they cross my mind now and then, but I'm still convinced that validation—for "the best that I've got"—can be achieved by other means than marriage.

Why do lesbians in the late 80s want to get married to each other? Is this the only road to acceptance? Community support? Parental recognition? What are



they getting from the promise of exclusivity (with or without legal recognition)? What meaning does it have when it's not legal? And how does it affect (or more accurately, disaffect) the rest of us? Besides, didn't feminists in the 70s already attack the institution of marriage (its traditional sexual, political and economic prerequisites) in their commitment to end sexual oppression? I know there are more than the three of us challenging the prescriptions and idealism of "The Cosby Show" and "Family Ties." Has the conservative backlash of the Reagan era and the crisis of AIDS doomed alternative possibilities?

First of all, marriage is embedded within heterosexuality, property relations, dependence, monogamy and traditional parenthood, all of which affect women in a particularly debilitating way. People should really read Gayle Rubin's seminal essay called *The Traffic in Women* (title stolen from Emma Goldman). Now granted, this was written more than a decade ago, but I fear a refresher course is in order. As Rubin looks at the intersection between the work of anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss and Sigmund Freud, she goes about investigating "how does a female become oppressed as a woman?" She finds marriage and gender, boldly organized around the exchange of women (in the marriage system) to be at the root of sexual oppression. Although over the years, the details have evolved into insidious rumblings of compulsory monogamy, her basic analysis still rings true.

Legal wedding ceremonies, and the resulting "marriage," resonate with unobstructed ties to the state. Nineteenth century bourgeois trends made marriage not only a convenience but a necessity. Heterosexuality and the traditional nuclear family is now all about property, all about economic and political arrangements: the shared income, the shared apartment, "charters to rights of domicile and land use," as it were. What already should be a relic of heterosexuality is fast emerging as contested ground for queers and it bothers me. But it's about social validation, community support and cultural benefits, and we just want a piece of that pie, right?

Sure, and the premise of state acknowledgement masks as emotional legitimization for both women and men. Despite various sexual orientations, we're all on an ambiguous quest for social validation. Why do many young lesbians and gay men wait to come out to their parents (or whomever) until they are in a stable, long-term, monogamous relationship? Why do they feel so unjustified for having open or shore (overnight) relationships? Why do we try to prove to the bigger-than-life mandates of society that we are no different, that we can be just like everyone else? Especially for women (and some previously-straight-and-married-now-lesbian-women may recognize their struggle in this one), why do we panic so, crunching ourselves up to fit into traditionally oppressive structures?

Photos: T.L. Litt

Dykes who are older than I am and went through the experience of compulsory heterosexuality, the expected marriage, and the necessary divorce, have much wisdom about uphill battles against socialization. One can't deny that women—who are so easily dismissed as "useless" by this culture—have a need (consequently, a desire) to be accepted, to escape disrespect and violence. The role set out for women is a *cultural*



imperative of "femininity": subordination, passivity, sacrifice. Who wants to be left alone, grow old alone, be called ugly, aggressive, difficult, selfish, unlovable? And, even if you haven't been straight or legally married, anyone can identify with the fantasy: touching satin and imagining your wedding dress (billowing, very long tail), the ceremony with loads of flowers (even in your hair), the spotlight on you, oh so much attention, the climactic kiss, the Happiest Day of Your Life.

These psycho-social pressures make us start bad relationships (of all gender combinations), make us stay in bad relationships, make us settle for (almost) anything. Is this compulsory coupledom or compulsory heterosexuality? Perhaps I've got two arguments on my hands here. One could be about heterosexuality (as a detrimental prerequisite for, and prescription of, marriage) and the other might be about monogamy (as not only the imperative for marriage, but a repressive model for everyone). Nevertheless, I'm not sure they're that different. Any argument against marriage is an attack against the institution of monogamy. So my focus here is marriage because it's more concrete and it influences every corner of the cultural terrain very clearly. Marriage, which forces direct ties to the state in terms of inheritance, property co-ownership and legal contracts, also creates gender relations (i.e. the sexual division of labor). The sexual-economic

mandates are inextricable within such legally sanctioned unions.

• • •

At most of the weddings I have attended (aside from my mother's) rings were not exchanged, green cards were. (Incidentally, in Australia gay and lesbian relationships are recognized without the marriage drama for immigration purposes!) Even without green card or visa transactions, weddings (like funerals) are a business, big business. People fly in from all over the place. Videos are made. Lots of money is spent, usually as much as possible. And afterwards the bank accounts are merged, the mortgages are shared, and so on. I haven't been to a lesbian wedding...yet. Sometime in November I'll make a pilgrimage to San Francisco for the marriage of a close high-school buddy. We came out at the same time, different colleges and she's chosen a stable, long term thing, a committed, monogamous relationship with a woman about ten years older. The ceremony will probably be made up of close friends, a smattering of family members. They already have their two rings. We've had it out over this one before (and now we're doing it on the pages of *OutWeek*).

• • •

The fantasy of marriage is one thing, the reality is another. And romantic ideals fall short even for straight folks. They are up against the same morals and traditions as the rest of us: women are only valid when connected to a man, or when seeking a "mate." (In a similar vein, the Center for Disease Control keeps HIV epidemiological records on women only when they are associated with a man, or when they are mothers.) But marriage doesn't work to allow straight women any more independence, self-determination, or confidence than they are allowed otherwise. In fact, it limits those things even further. The wedding ring isn't a viable promise or guarantee. Monogamy is no more rampant in marriages than outside of them. The divorce rate is soaring. And there are plenty of still-married couples who

would be better off apart. Trust, stability and legitimization don't seem to emerge from these formalized unions. It's hell to get it together in the first place, and then usually more painful doing the paper work to get out of it. Emma Goldman said, "Marriage is the antithesis of love, and will necessarily destroy it." I not only believe her, but I know that the emotional stress of a break up doesn't adhere to any barometer of the state or church recognition.

So, lesbians going on with pragmatic rationalizations for how they will do this differently doesn't satisfy me. Marriage isn't just a word, but rather a whole system of values. We all witness how the family unit gets targeted for consumer items. Pick a TV advertisement, any advertisement. For example, you'll see parenthood, the nuclear family, the "happy homemaker" and her home improvement ideas, and kids with innocuous and irrelevant presents à la Fisher Price. And women are the ones socially positioned to administer the family's consumption. What kind of a world are we trying to reinforce?

OK, so I went to the "Children in Our Lives" conference in Boston a few years ago. Lots of yupped dykes with their perfect children, plenty of toys, swimming lessons at two years old, tennis at three, the ideal kiddo. One plenary talk, though, vehemently punctured the atmosphere. Angele Bowen, a grandmother, a Black woman, stood up and said if she had it to do again that she wouldn't have any kids. She said she couldn't stand seeing lesbians so eagerly participating in consumer culture, couldn't stand the nuclear family units



riddled with awkward and exclusive notions of privacy, purity and property. She suggested we explode this value system and make our homes reflect the diversity of the world around us by acknowledging extended families includ-

See JUST SAY NO on page 78

Fighting the Phobes

In the Face of Increasing Censorship,
the Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival Forges Ahead



BALLAD OF READING GAOL BY RICHARD KWIENTNIOWSKI

by Karl Soehnlein

"Welcome to 65 films that will never be funded by the National Endowment for the Arts."

This *in-your-face* Jesse Helms greeting opens next week's Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival. The seven day event blatantly challenges recent federal attempts to brand gays and lesbians "obscene," and proudly presents work that is "experimental"—a term which makes some people shudder, but which the festival's organizers take great pains to demystify.

"I'm interested in documenting emotions," explains filmmaker Jim Hubbard who is co-organizing the event with author Sarah Schulman. Both speak about the festival without the academic detachment usually heard at these events. For Hubbard film is vital when it

"has something to do with my life and the filmmaker's life. What I do and what I film are the same thing."

And if there's one thread that holds the festival's diverse offerings together, it's the creation of gay visions by gays and for gays (see accompanying article). "There's an audience out there that's hungry for images," Hubbard maintains. "It's just a question of reaching them." The success of the festival—two years of sold-out houses—indicates that they're doing something right.

Hubbard and Schulman created the festival together over three years ago. Both saw a need for venues to showcase non-narrative gay film, but there were also personal issues at stake; Hubbard's ex-lover, filmmaker Roger Jacoby, had died of AIDS, leaving behind a large body of rarely-screened work. Schul-

man's lover was also an experimental filmmaker facing problems with getting her work seen.

Experimental filmmakers often moan about an unresponsive public, but Schulman blames the language of film theory for its problems. She rails against what she calls the "benign intellectualism" which characterizes much cinema-speak. "If you say, 'My film is about gender investigation of the female gaze in media,' well, that doesn't mean anything. But if you say, 'I broke up with my girlfriend and it's changed the way I see women's bodies'—which could be exactly the same thing—it's a more honest statement and it lets people in." Hubbard and Schulman pay special attention to explaining films through program notes. In addition, when a film is particularly "difficult," an effort is made to

inform the audience beforehand.

They've learned all of this from mistakes, as Schulman freely admits. Hubbard's own filmmaking is a perfect example. Shooting mostly in super 8 and without sound, and then hand-processing each role of film, he creates poetic documents which are far from conventional. Last year, during a screening of one of his films audiences got restless and hostile. Schulman faults their own presentation of the work as the problem. "If the lights go down and the film comes up and it's hand processed and silent, people start getting aggressive, and uncomfortable, and they start talking to the film. But if you start it out by saying, 'Now you're going to see a hand-processed film. This means that the filmmaker developed it himself so that he could use the color to express certain emotions he couldn't express if it was developed in a lab. And it's silent because of this, and it's this for this reason...then they know what they're watching and they can build a relationship with it and they like it.' Doesn't all that explanation insult an audience? Schulman thinks exactly the opposite: that audiences have been taken for granted for years by elite film theories.

"The language of criticism is ridiculous, and all the rhetoric around it is totally meaningless. It obscures feelings and it tells people 'This work is not for you.'" She and Hubbard take up the challenge of creating an audience that is a diverse community, not a select group of the avant-garde in-the-know. "I have a strong sense of obligation to the gay community," Schulman states. Hubbard agrees. "We try to create a safe place for gays and lesbians to come and see films, and we try really hard to give people a context in which to see the work."

The festival is the product of their dual commitments. Working for six or more months each year with no support staff, Hubbard and Schulman seek out and screen hundreds of hours of film in preparation for the event. They each take a minuscule amount of money for it—last year's labors worked out to about a dollar an hour.

Similarly, the festival's \$8,000 budget is tiny for an event of its size. Funding for the festival is primarily from the New York State Council on the Arts, which actually raised its contribution from last year, no small fact in this age of oppression (Kitty Carlisle Hart, chair



HOME AVENUE BY JENNIFER MONTGOMERY



FESTIVAL CO-ORGANIZER JIM HUBBARD

of the council, has even sent word that she will show up for one of this year's screenings). Schulman and Hubbard have never applied to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), an act of self-censorship that speaks to the state of federal arts funding even before the recent Mapplethorpe/Serrano hubbub.

The threat of the Helms Amendment passing—which would ban federal money for, among other things, "homosexual" and "sadomasochistic" art, and penalize organizations which sponsor such work—has obscured the fact that

the NEA has never been a strong supporter of gay projects. Schulman elaborates, "Right now the NEA is a completely censoring organization. It does not fund lesbian culture... Robert Mapplethorpe was representative of what kind of gay people get funded: white gay men who have an arts audience, who are situated in the upper class." The ironic truth is that artists are fighting to maintain a standard that is already unacceptable.

Because of this, Schulman sees the Helms amendment having a minimal effect on individual artists. The real power of this pending

legislation will be seen at the level of exhibition. This very festival theoretically poses a threat to its host, the anthology Film Archives, which is dependent upon federal grants for part of its income.

Despite increasing government censorship of art, the festival has continued to grow and in the process the effect of the AIDS crisis on filmmakers' work has increased. The first year of the festival contained only one film about AIDS; last year there were a handful. This year, as Schulman and Hubbard agree, the entire festival seems to be influenced by the

crisis. There are several films by people with AIDS (both living and dead), and many of the films simply point to the way AIDS has transformed the meaning of nearly every gay and lesbian image. A case in point is Artie Bressan's *Gay USA*, which depicts the strong political response to Anita Bryant's gay-bashing crusade in 1977. The film is, in Hubbard's words, "thrilling to watch, but filled with naive enthusiasm and expectation that things are going to be so much better." As the festival's opening night show, *Gay USA* sets a tone of both celebration and introspection.

Both Hubbard and Schulman are committed to bringing lesbians and gay men together through the festival. For the most part, films by men and women are integrated on each program. As a lesbian, Schulman has specific reasons for this curatorial decision: men, for the most part, don't come to see women's films. It does go both ways, though, as she explains, "This year we have an incredible film about rape (Jennifer Montgomery's *Home Avenue*) which is really important for men to see, and we have a really great film about jack-off clubs (Philip Roth's *Boys/Life*), which is great for women to see, too..." This integrated programming mirrors Schulman's observation that "the whole gay community is going co-ed. There's a lot more personal relationships between men and women; there are more political relationships. When the day is over, the boys go with the boys and the girls go with the girls and everything's fine. But it's really a more mixed community."

Despite the personal satisfaction for both Hubbard and Schulman, the burn-out level is high. They will soon be joined by a third organizer, a solution to the problem of too much responsibility for two people to handle. Both were considering the possibility of backing off from the festival next year, but the NEA situation has changed that. "We have an obligation to keep going," Hubbard sums up. And we—a community under siege—have an obligation to show up and support gay and lesbian artistic endeavors, now more than ever. ▼

The Thrid New York Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival open Monday September 18 and runs through Sunday, September 24, at Anthology Film Archives, 32-34 Second Ave. (on Second St.). Tickets \$5. Festival Pass \$40. Info: 212/865-1499.



FILMMAKER JACK WATERS, FESTIVAL CO-ORGANIZER SARAH SCHULMAN AND FILMMAKER PETER CRAMER

Photo: T.L. Litt



DREAM & DESIRE BY TOM CHOMONT

Festival Sampler

Carl M. George's *DHPG Mon Amour* is a day in the life of Joe and his lover David, a PWA who takes the drug DHPG to combat cytomegalovirus (an opportunistic infection associated with AIDS). Their detailed explanation of taking DHPG and observations about living with AIDS are the most direct and powerful ever captured on film.

Jim Hubbard's *Elegy in the Streets* transforms the mass spectacle of street activism into a thousand individual acts of courage. Footage of ACT UP demonstrations is poetically edited with shots of Hubbard's deceased lover in his garden. Though the film is silent, it roars with urgency from start to finish.

Lesbian sex features in two films from Germany. Lisa Laquier's *Mull*—meaning trash—is an erotic romp between two "nuns." Alternating between the silly and the sexy, the film is most memorable for its vivid use of a crucifix, and for a blond wig that just won't stay put. Barbara Theil's *Blues Transit* is sensuous sex where monumental bodies seem to float in space and on water.

A more layered look at female interaction, Peggy Ahwesh's *Martina's Playhouse* toys with the sexuality of children as much as PeeWee Herman, but forces its viewers to address this taboo subject. Alternating scenes involve a lesbian confessing her wish to make love to the filmmaker; here the subject gains the upper hand, allowing an alternative to the film's questionable exploitation of three-year-old Martina.

An equally dense film, Jack Walsh's *Present Tense* uses

footage from various sources (including concentration camp horrors) to explore fascism and threats to civil rights. Set against a background of AIDS panic, Walsh looks at how we censure our own desire in the face of fear and stigma. Less "heavy" in its exploration of sexuality, Phillip B. Roth's *Boys/Life* delves cock-first into the world of jack-off clubs. These private safe sex orgies rise to idyllic levels for Roth; it's public affection which makes him uneasy. To combat this, he and a group of friends go to Central Park to make out. The film is playful and romantic and sometimes painfully honest.

George Kuchar's *Summer of No Return* is a different kind of fun, spoofing teen melodramas of the 50s and 60s. Kuchar creates a twisted tale populated by junkies, New Agers and *Rocky Horror* left-overs. Other films worth catching: Robert Hiltferty's *Cirque du SIDA*, a look at the AIDS crisis as a three-ring circus; Marianne Willtop's *More Fire*, where actresses working in a Brew Burger create a show about their job experiences; Richard Kwientniowski's *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*, a moving tribute to Oscar Wilde's imprisonment; and *Meet Bradley Garrison Pickelsimer*, Heather McAdam's portrait of an unforgettable Kentucky drag queen. And for celebrity watchers, there's the premiere of *Annie*, featuring sex queen Annie Sprinkle "doing what she does best"; *Andy Warhol*, Marie Menken's documentation of pop art in the making; and Sandy Daley's *Robert Having his Nipple Pierced*, in which the much maligned Mapplethorpe gets it in the tit.

—Karl Soehnlein

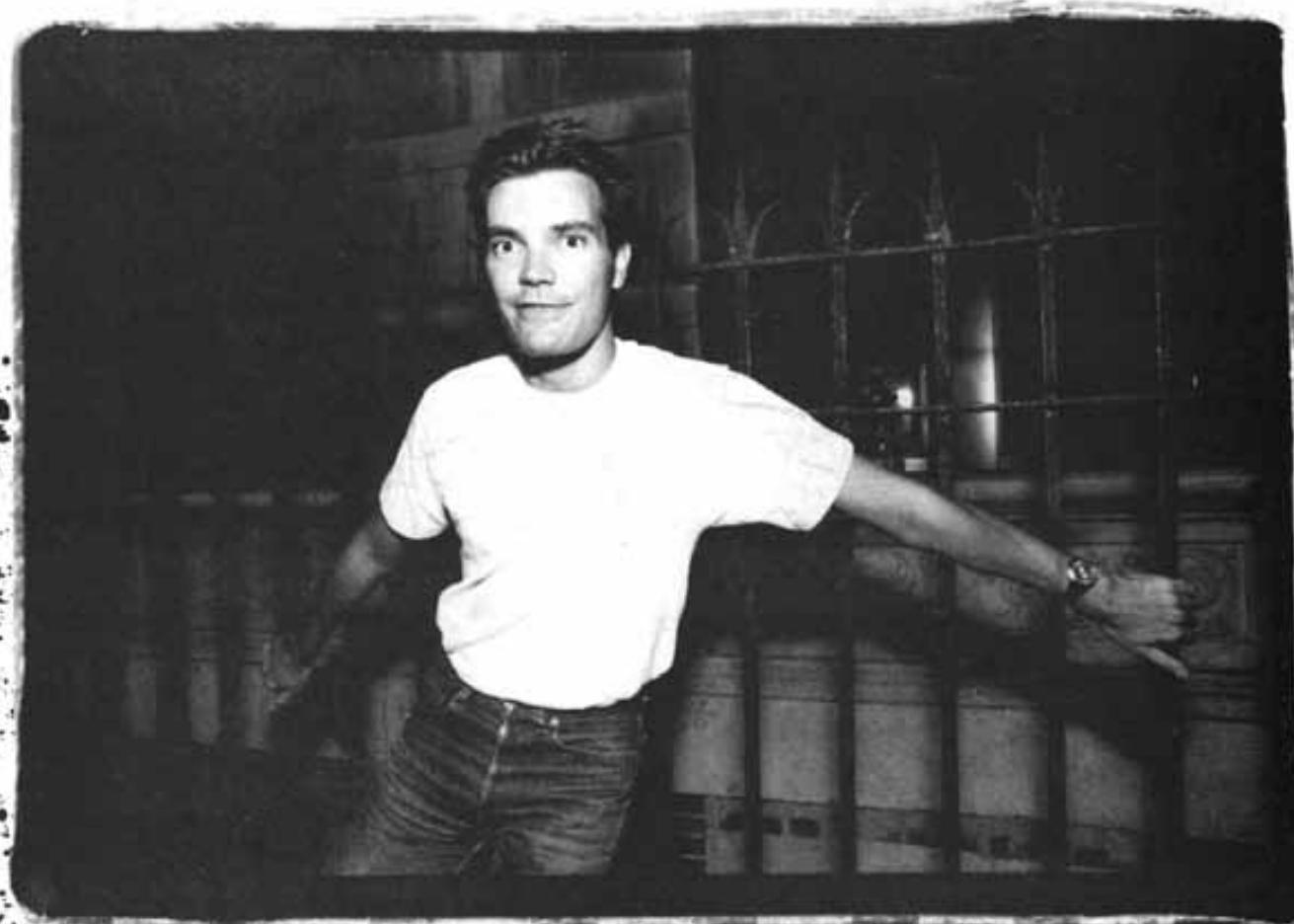
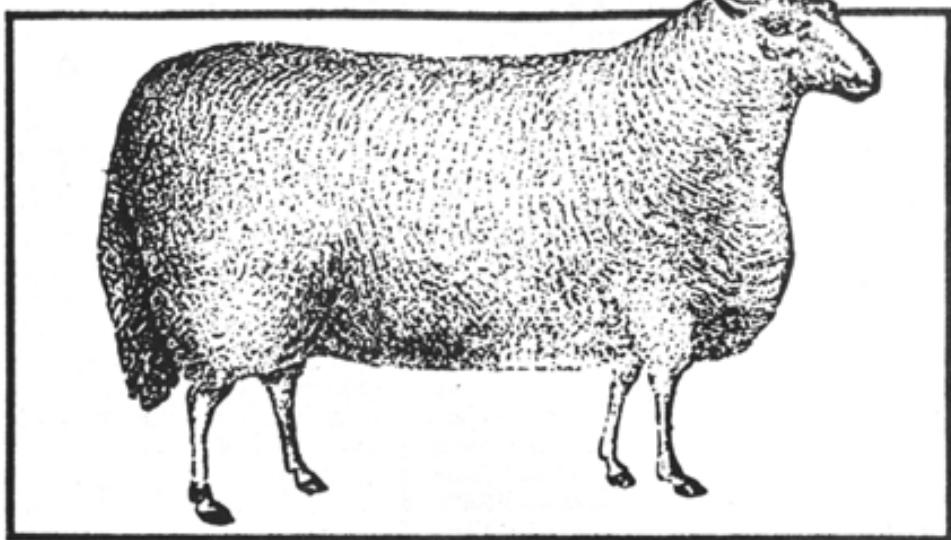


Photo: T.L. Litt

"Who is Mark?" you asked, as 300 people blocked traffic on Avenue A, chanting, "We want Mark!" Mild-mannered Mark Carson, 35, was arrested while trying to prevent a gay bashing at *Wigstock* (see news story page 12). He's *OutWeek's* bachelor of the week and so much more: his sideburns were featured in *7 Days*, he hosts the fabulous and the trendy in his East Village apartment (of course), and to top it off, he's an AIDS activist as well as an actor and writer. Says tall, dark and handsome Mark of his whirlwind week: "I'm still looking forward to next year's *Wigstock*!"

—John Umlaut



AN ESTIMATED 18 percent of the 130,000 male sheep in the United States, it's reported, have no interest whatsoever in female sheep.

While we understand and feel not a bit sheepish about condoning the behavior of 18 per cent of our woolly friends, as reported in a recent Sunday edition of the *San Francisco Examiner/Chronicle*, we do have a few questions:

1. Is there a connection between the wool from these sheep and Calvin Klein's winter collection?
2. What of female sheep with no interest in males? Are there in fact, none, or (as we suspect) is the oppression of ewes and the invisibility of lesbians in the sheep community merely being perpetuated by *Examiner/Chronicle* reporters?
3. Are these sheep accepted into their flocks as equal, productive members of sheep society, or are they ostracized by older, fundamentalist sheep with dyed-in-the-wool ideas about mating?

— Andrew Miller



OUT OF MY HANDS

BY BRADLEY BALL

Dear Brad:

Like so many people I never thought I'd be writing to *you* but my friends and I are having a kind of problem and need an objective opinion. You see, several weeks ago this terrible storm closed down all the roads around here. We couldn't get out to buy groceries and all we had in the house was a bag of Doritos, two cans of caffeine-free Diet Coke and half a roll of chocolate LifeSavers that had been buried under the sofa cushions since God knows when. Needless to say, even with scrupulous rationing, such limited supplies didn't last long—actually no more than a few hours. By the second day of this we were all naturally feeling rather peckish and I'm afraid everybody's tempers were somewhat fragile. Well, Randy (who, I might add, is Evan's friend, not mine) started whining about the situation and saying that he never should have left Manhattan—not like he hadn't been whining about anything and everything from the minute he arrived. I told Randy as calmly as was possible that we were all in the same predicament and didn't need to

hear any more of his eternal griping. Then Evan said I was taking my own hunger and frustration out on Randy, since it's a well-known fact I can't tolerate him for more than a few minutes at a time, but that his was not an ideal moment to pick a fight. So I said maybe everybody might be interested in knowing that I'd seen Randy sneak an extra LifeSaver when he thought nobody was looking. Randy, of course, became very defensive but I inquired that if there were five Life Savers to begin with and four of us and we ate only one apiece then would somebody, namely Randy, care to explain what became of the fifth one? Randy got all red in the face and said maybe I was just accusing him in order to divert suspicion from myself and how did we know there hadn't been an entire roll in the first place? Then Dwayne, ever the little peacemaker, said he couldn't believe we were arguing about a fucking LifeSaver and I asked him if he'd prefer we go back to arguing about *Sunday in the Park with George*. Dwayne said we needed to focus on the more immediate problem which was getting food. So Evan

(who's always been jealous over the fact that Dwayne beat him out for a spot in the national company of *They're Playing Our Song*) asked Dwayne if he had any brilliant solutions since he obviously had such an astute grasp of the immediate problem and Dwayne pointed out that there was more than enough meat on Randy to feed an emerging nation. We had to agree on that and after a quick vote (3-1) we ate Randy. Well, wouldn't you know, the very next day they cleared the roads and we were able to drive into town! Now we're feeling sort of guilty about Randy even though there was no way of knowing at the time. Do you think we did the wrong thing?

—Scott

Dear Scott:

We are all of us capable of saying or doing certain things in the heat of certain moments that we might later regret (the Christmas of 1980 immediately leaps to my mind but that is, I suppose, another story). Notwithstanding our community's long and cherished tradition of devouring one another in the spirit of conciliation, I must say that you all showed remarkably poor judgement in resorting to majority vote for the sake of expedience. The fact that there was one person—you didn't say who—who disagreed with the proposal as stated indicates that the interest of an involved party were arbitrarily disregarded. It is for this very reason that groups should always endeavour to arrive at consensus in any decision-making process. I well understand that some people tend to find consensus tedious and time-consuming at first, but with experience we all come to realize that it is the only truly acceptable means by which to reach equitable solutions. And aren't equitable solutions what everybody wants? Think about it next time.

Another 10 Reasons Why You Should be a Lesbian

by Veneita Porter

1. You get to use words such as "nurture" and "adult children" with amazing regularity.
2. Milk carton furniture was in your apartment before it became fashionable.
3. Being allergic to cats becomes an act of revolution.
4. Watching, playing or discussing softball is an art form.
5. Hanging on to ex-lovers is regarded as a valued social custom.
6. You get mediocre sex on a semi-annual basis.
7. For some strange reason you are expected to be able to recite (upon request) every lyric of all Holly Near songs.
8. You are not supposed to have lustful feelings for Roland Gift.
9. You get to be accused of being femme any time you wear a dress that doesn't look like a sack cloth.
10. It is assumed that babies and lesbians go together.



By Michelangelo Signorile

ter at a party Billy omits the entire sequence in his reporting of the occasion in his column. I, for one, have had enough of this sleaze bucket who ducks from any sort of controversy and puts his head in the sand at a moment's notice. He praises these assholes, gives them publicity and glorifies them while they carry on in their murderous fashion. In *Avenue* magazine Norwich says, "I see myself as a moving community bulletin board upon which people insist on posting notices." Not *MY* community!

Or *YOURS*, for that matter, Billy. But I suppose you might not know what a shithead you've been. So perhaps we should tell you.

I propose a Gossip Zap. After reading this column call Billy Norwich and tell him that you've had it with his self-hatred and homophobia, you've had it with his hiding, you've had it with his negligence, you've had it with his worshiping and glorifying the very people who are killing and oppressing us. Leave him a sweet little message. Dial-A-Shithead: 212-570-2249. ▼

Perhaps William Norwich (*Daily News*) has been studying at the Jesse Helms School of Censorship? Or maybe he physically doesn't see or hear certain things? Or maybe he suffers from temporary amnesia? Or maybe he's just a stupid, self-hating, homophobic asshole? By golly, I think that's it!

It was Norwich, you see, who wrote a glowing column about photographer Patrick McMullan's birthday dinner party at MK (days after the party took place) and somehow forgot to mention the highlight of the dreary evening: When *moi* shoved a tub of butter in artist Mark Kostabi's face. Even if he didn't see it himself, didn't he read about it on Page Six (*New York Post*) the next day? I guess not. But it's funny how he remembered to boldface every do-nothing and nobody-pretending-to-be-sombody who attended the affair. And funny how he remembered to write about McMullan's baby, the photographer's all-new, little stamp of *beterosexuality*. And funny how Norwich remembered to give everyone a plug for his or her next project. Then, I suppose, the occurrence of a political act — and the only excitement of an otherwise slumberous evening — just simply slipped his mind.

For quite obvious reasons we'd think Norwich, of all people, would call out a homophobe when he sees one. But, you see, our dear, little Billy boy was still mentioning Kostabi's name long after the artist made his anti-gay remarks. And then, suddenly, when Kostabi is pounced upon by a protestor with a tub of but-

GOSSIP ZAP!

212-570-2249

Call

BILLY
NORWICH

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BILLY!

GOSSIP ZAP!

Social Terrorism

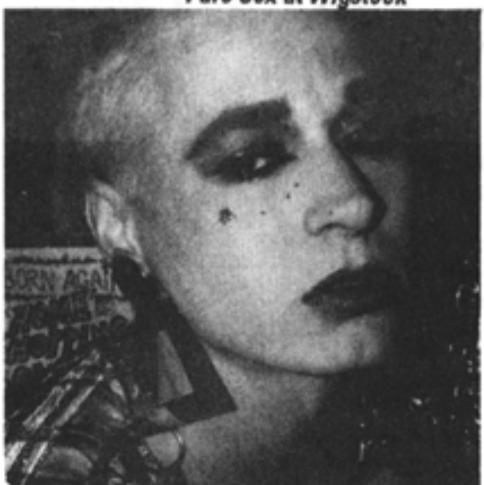
Photos by Ericb Conrad



'UDDERLY' STUNNING
Loretta Hogg at Wigstock



GAY BASHING, TOO
Pure Sex at Wigstock



MUMMY, MAKE IT GO AWAY
Dixie at Wigstock



FLASH IN THE PANCREAS
Wigstock vision



2 MUCH
The It Twins at Copacabana



COUNTRY COUPLE
Galinda and Michael of Kinky Gerlinky at Cowgirl Hall of Fame



BY THE TIME WE GOT TO WIGSTOCK, WE HAD HALF A MILLION HAIRS
Dagmar Onassis blisses out



CHIC TO CHEEK?
Derek Meen and Chip Duckett at Wigstock



LIPSYNKA AND DEVOTED FAN
John Epperson at Cowgirl Hall of Fame



BOO BOO PI DOO
Kathy at Love Machine



GOOD MORNING MRS CALLAHAN
Preparing a Wigstock doo



GOOD REEFER, MAN
George Wayne loving it up at Wigstock



LIP SERVICE
Floozy blonde at Wigstock

WIGERELLA

by Michelangelo Signorile

O

nce upon a time... actually, the day before Wigstock, I needed a wig; a feat akin to finding a Christmas Tree on Christmas Eve. Where, oh, where was I to find a hairpiece on the eve of the BIG HAIRFEST?

"Try the guy selling junk on the street at St. Mark's and Third," a friend shouted as he raced down Avenue A clutching his new black fall. "I think there's one left."

But there wasn't.

So, I wouldn't get a wig. Big deal. I stumbled along and happened upon a man who sells tie-dyed clothes on the fenced-in front steps of his tiny basement apartment next to Theatre 80 on St. Mark's Place.

"Gee, they're all so beautiful," I oozed, my eyes sparkling. "But it would be just super if you had wigs, sir."

"Just one moment, young man," he replied as he scurried into his humble home.

I was suddenly uplifted. "You *shall* go to the ball!" exclaimed my friend, Ben, as I jumped in jubilation. The handsome older man came back with a box full of wigs in every conceivable color — aqua, orange, emerald, lavender, ruby! And for only eight dollars each (friends were paying up to 20 bucks at Woolworth's on 14th Street). I bought a gorgeous powder blue piece. The man threw in a kerchief of *magical* pink chiffon! (I couldn't help but wonder that perchance Prince Charming would dance with me in Tompkins Square Park. I would then have to run off before the stroke of twelve, but of course I'd lose my wig. He'd then go from tenement to tenement the next day to see whose head the wig fit on.)

The next morning, the day of Wigstock, four of my friends needed wigs. I took them all over to my Fairy Godfather of Wigstock. But he wasn't there and neither were the tie-dyed clothes. My friends crept down the stairway and rapped on the huge gate-enclosed glass doors of his basement abode. A moment later he appeared, handing them colorful, frothy wigs through the iron gates.

We skipped off to the wig ball, all aglow. Thousands were already in the midst of the annual end-of-the-summer-blast which had us reveling in liberation, freedom of





Photo: Ben Thornberry

expression, cross-dressing, love, peace and all that stuff. We joined in. I can remember dancing, and singing and touching so many wigs. Everyone had partaken of magical fairy elixir. Queens took to the stage one after another, some simply embracing the fun of drag, others realizing full well that theirs was a form of entertainment that was, beyond a doubt, a powerful political act. The park seemed as if it were ours as we joined hands and hairpieces in celebration of a what was so far a magical and uplifting day free from all the horrors, the hatred, the bullshit that we encounter every day.

And suddenly everything changed. The coaches turned back into pumpkins. The horses back into mice. And someone lost his glass slipper — and his beads and wig and hat. Actually it was two people. The clock struck midnight in the form of an announcement: "Two queens have been beaten up."

And the bullshit was pouring in again; so abundant is it that it can't be dammed off even for a day.

From there it was massive confusion. Crowds. Screams. Cries. Cops. People doing the wrong thing, the right thing, anything, nothing. We were back to the streets, chanting, waving fists. And all of the wigs were off the heads, shoved into bags until Steve Spinella ordered them back on as hundreds sat in the middle of Avenue A: "We're here to celebrate wigs and cross-dressing! Put your wigs back on!"

But still, in all the hysteria and madness, as skinheads tossed bottles and the like, I lost my wig somewhere. No Prince Charming has buzzed my door holding it. And I have this feeling that even if I went back to the Wig Fairy Godfather's, some yuppie would answer the door holding a cordless phone and telling me that I'm crazy and that no Fairy lives there. ▼

*I
bought
a
gorgeous
powder
blue
piece.
The man
threw
in a
kerchief
of
magical
pink
chiffon!*

Relentlessly So

by Peter Bowen

Relentless. Directed by William Lustig. Written by Jack T.D. Robinson. Produced by Howard Smith. Presented by Cinetel Films. Released by New Line Cinema.

While politics makes strange bedfellows, police stories make even stranger bedfellows of cops—especially undercover cops—and criminals. In police stories, as well as in our own policed reality, cops and criminals find each other not only looking over each others' shoulders, and following each others' footsteps, but more often than not invading each others' spaces to such a degree that almost any policed space becomes

criminal, and the police—in order to maintain order—must act as criminals. In one such clumsy *pas de deux*, police act as gay men in order to entrap them in public bathrooms. Some gay men respond by dressing up their fantasies or partners in police uniforms. The policing of desire and the desirability of the police suggests to what extent each group must know—perhaps too intimately—the *modus operandi* of the other. This is not to say that I—or any other gay/lesbian person—might want to "know" the police, let alone join their ranks, but rather to note that "queer" and criminal sensation which the very presence of the police seems to inspire within me. It is then a profound historical irony that the order which the police so relentlessly enforce is matched only by a criminal order which such policing by necessity creates.

In this light, William Lustig's *Relentless* might have been a clever commentary on the relationship between the police and their discontents. Following the tagline—"Killers aren't born. They're made."—it is the police, or more precisely an abusive police father, which made the specific killer of this film. Raised—as we are shown by a series of misty-eyed flashbacks—by a brutal and disciplinarian policeman, Buck Taylor (Judd Nelson) mobilizes his childhood of discipline to engineer what must be the most complex suicide in film history. At the film's start, Buck—who was refused admittance into

the police force by a psychiatrist who labeled him too crazy (or perhaps not crazy enough)—decides to reactivate the police's interest in him. After searching the phone directory for victims with names similar to his own, Buck murders them by forcibly assisting them in killing themselves. In one case, for example, Buck surprises a handsome young man by his shower—making a suggestive gender twist on the traditional female shower victim—and then forces the unfortunate boy to stab himself with his own kitchen knife.

Just in case the murder/suicide theme isn't clear, Buck signs his murders by leaving behind the phone directory page with a challenge to the police scrawled on it. As planned, the police track Buck down, first as potential victim, and then as probable suspect. Thus his suicide killings provoke the police finally to kill him. Like his father, who had been gunned down by criminals, Buck becomes a criminal precisely in order to be gunned down by the police. And even more appropriate to this criminal economy—where police and criminals are almost interchangeable—Buck is gunned down by a policeman, Sam Dietz (Leo Rossi), who must step outside the law in order to enforce it.

Rather than provoking a twisted examination of the pathology of the police/criminal mind, *Relentless* unfortunately settles into a rather bland police buddy story. Here the New Yorker cop (recently transferred and newly promoted, detective Dietz) and his older, mellower L.A. partner, Bill Malloy (Sam Rossi) exchange nasty glances and tired NY vs LA clichés before they finally make up and—while not kissing—make a date for a baseball game. That is, of course, before homewrecker Buck shoots down Malloy and then goes after Dietz's happy family. When Buck's targets change from the anonymous public to the personal world of friends and families, Dietz takes up his role as a public guardian with a personal

See RELENTLESSLY SO on page 78



"KILLERS AREN'T BORN."

Judd Nelson

Wicked Warts



by Jim Fouratt

Picture this: You're flipping through the used record racks at Sounds on St. Mark's Place and come upon some clearly queer cover art. You freak. There it is, big as life: A PINK TRIANGLE pinned on the best little boy in the world, a tow-haired eight-year-old Wally Cleaver clone. The LP's entitled *It's Only Right and Natural*. You flip it over and see written inside of an inverted pink triangle a listing of song titles including: "Homos," "Dykes are We," and "Been a Month Since I Had a Man." You, of course, buy it and run home to get some "culture."

But what you bought is a sick joke; as deadly as a virus and as vicious as bat swap. What you get are 14, short, stupid, adolescent songs that portray gay men as sex-crazed, drug-addicted, masochistic child molesters; gay men totally unconcerned with either their own health or the health of others...and women as cock-hungry competitive faux fags.

It's a hateful misrepresentation of gay & lesbian lifestyle clothed in folksy home-recording drag by two self-identified het white brothers from Milwaukee (...they could be Guns 'n Roses wannabes strutting in their spandex and lipstick at the Cat Club or the Ice-T/Niggers With Attitude (NWA) set disowning lesbians and gays of Color and upping the Macho ante among Black youth already under identity siege).

"Funny," you say.... Some gay writers have even suggested it is a rallying call for gay supremacy, or found it's homophobia PUNK in humor.

Wrong.

This is a *dangerous* record in year 10 of the AIDS crisis. While the rock music industry has yet to mount a major rock AIDS benefit, a leading alternative record label has chosen to crap on the besieged gay community with The Frogs. While Michael Callen, Charlie Murphy, David Lasley, the Flirtations and Blackberry, all openly gay musicians, are either label-less or relegated to self-distributed ghetto albums, Homestead Records promotes in the press—and on college

radio—this toxic artless waste of vinyl and we are again set up as a community de-personalized and defined in sex-negative iconography. A Sam Kinnison joke to soothe the sexual tensions of a falling-from-power class of gay-bashers and women-haters. It's a sick twist on blackface: *Hets posing as homos*.

The truth to how this record came about is a real lesson in homo hatred. The two brothers (and I don't give a fuck about their own sexual confusion.... Roy Cohn and J. Edgar Hoover were obsessed with dick too), friends of the cow-turd shaped Cosley, the head of Homestead Records, knew of his fascination with dick size and his loathing of homos and his fear of rap from his writings in fanzines and the *Village Voice*. So they made a home recording song-demo about fags and Blacks and sent it as a present to Gerard: an aural study of men in their twenties stuck in a confused adolescent mind set of the fear-of-difference.

Cosley took it seriously. He must have thought it just the perfect retort to the Jimmie Somervilles, the Boy Georges and all those ACT UP-type-self-affirming-lesbian-&-gay-safe-sex-positive beauties. Cosley insisted over the brothers' weak objections on pressing their demo onto vinyl. After, of course, exorcising the racist material (white male het-identified liberal rock critics would have certainly objected). What was left became The Frogs LP, a totally unsympathetic, cruel affirmation of Helms-think to sure up the homophobia of grown-up "boys."

Don't waste your precious green on this creepy crap. Better yet, go out and buy Williams S. Burroughs' *Wild Boy*. Billy-boy fantasizes a war plan for gay avenging angel gangs hell bent on het-bashing the likes of The Frogs and Gerard Cosley.

Never Again.... *It is only right and natural.*

FYI: Gerard Cosley
c/o Homestead Records
Dutch East India Trading
P.O. Box 800
Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800

The Young and the Reckless

Seminar on Youth by Aldo Busi, trans. by Stuart Hood. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. 292 pages. \$19.95.

by John Wing

Seminar on Youth is a disturbing lesson in the vagaries of love and deceit, with a young Italian narrator as beautiful as he is corrupt. Published in Italy in 1984 and now translated into English, Aldo Busi's first novel is a sensuous experience, at once seductive and cruel. Busi's language is oddly ruminative for a novel filled with unsavory characters; his sentences have a Proustian refinement which almost dazzle the reader into enjoying the reckless hero, Barbino. Like a hardened Don Juan, Barbino plays with the affections and illusions of the older men and women who are taken in by his youthful charms. Yet his desperate disregard for their feelings masks a pathological self-hatred. Hurting these deluded people becomes his pastime. "When I think I love someone I at once begin to hate him and to find in him a thousand defects and incompatibilities," he observes all too clearly. The strange thing though—and this is without a doubt Busi's greatest achievement—is that no matter how cynically Barbino is portrayed, he somehow wins the reader's sympathy, though only to mock us for our romantic naivete. It is as if the reader, too, becomes another one of his heartbroken victims. It is perhaps the first case of literary cuckoldry.

The record of Barbino's unpleasantness is long, stretching

across Italy and France. By the end of the novel he is busy making plans for his assault on England. In Milan, he is a sex worker, spends most of his days in bathhouses and public lavatories indulging in his favorite activities: anonymous sex and squashing the mosquitoes that collect near the steam pipes. Barbino has a veritable genius for choosing the wrong men. He is fond of a seedy voluptuary who drugs him unconscious before sex; and another who likes to beat him and lock him in a cabinet. In Paris,

Throughout the novel is a strain of melancholy in Barbino which prevents us from writing him off as a heartless monster. Barbino, you see, was one time in love. But Giacomo—a member of a prominent Italian family—is afraid to be seen in public with such a notorious "finocchio," and Barbino must content himself with furtive encounters at night "when there were no witnesses." Inevitably, Giacomo opts for a hetero life and gives Barbino the ax. It becomes the traumatic event of Barbino's life. "To be able to see Giacomo again," Barbino writes years later, "now that he is going to university, how elegant and good looking and triumphant he will be, if only I could do something to have my revenge for my reviled adolescent love." Love and hatred are inextricably mixed in Barbino. He gets his revenge, but it does nothing to lessen his pain.

The richest part of the novel describes Barbino's childhood in a poor Italian village, the son of a ne'er-do-well father and a mother who seems to do nothing but scream; his older brothers like to invent ways to torture him, one time dropping a snake down his shirt which bites him dozens of times. In his late teens, Barbino quits home for Paris, sleeping on park benches, hooking for money, going for days without food. He is involved briefly with the student rebellion in Paris of May, 1968, but is annoyed with the puritanical attitude of the revolutionaries with regard to gay sex. No one ever measures up to Barbino's expectations ("My lovers are always more mediocre than me..."). His life dramatically improves when he gets taken up by

See RECKLESS on page 78



PROUSTIAN REFINEMENT

Aldo Busi

Photo: Fausto Giaccone

he becomes obsessed with a priest who forces him to sneak into his house through the servants' entrance. One man whom Barbino thinks will make the perfect sugar daddy turns out to be a penniless crook and even steals Barbino's meager savings.

Taking Responsibility

by Sarah Schulman

Co-Dependence and the Myth of Recovery by Kay Hagen. Escapadia Press, 454 Seminole Ave., NE #6, Atlanta, GA 30307 (available by mail order only—\$5).

Despite the recent flood of gay self-help books in the chain stores, the tradition of gay and lesbian underground publishing flourishes. While some forms of queer writing have recently been permitted commodification, some will never be seen in B. Dalton's window. Whether it's poetry chapbooks in editions of fifty, *My Comrade* for the drag-set or xeroxed political pamphlets, gay and lesbian writing remains primarily a grassroots event.

It would be hard to be alive today and not know that 12-step programs have widespread appeal within the gay community. Since virtually every homosexual has been told at some time in his or her life that he or she is bad, the average gay man or lesbian has learned well the craft of self-destruction. In recent years more and more communal effort has been made to identify and stop abusive behavior, particularly alcoholism and drug abuse.

These programs have become so popular among women that the recent Michigan Women's Music Festival, an annual gathering of 6,000 lesbians, offered extensive 12-step meetings in the following categories:

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA), Survivors of Incest Abuse (SIA), Smokers Anonymous (SA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Al-ANON, Debtors Anonymous (DA), Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA), Co-Dependents Anonymous (CODA) and Generic 12-step meetings six times a

day. So, in a culture in which coming-out is considered an act of mental health, anonymity has re-entered the foundations of many women's lives. 12-Step and the language of recovery are influencing lesbians in a big way. But clearly it has spread beyond physical addictions. Now 12-step is being used as a way to "recover" from emotionally destructive patterns as well as physical ones. Both are referred to, in-house, as "addictions."

While clearly AA is the only system that works for millions of people who want to stop drinking, only time will tell if applying that program to relationship issues like "co-dependency" will have the same effect.

Kay Hagen, a writer from Georgia, has published a pamphlet in Samizdat form under the series heading *Fugitive Information*. Her piece articulates a clear and informative critique of the 12-step movement and its impact on the lesbian community. Hagen, a self-defined Adult Child of Alcoholics, spent five years in an ACA program that she says "affected me almost as profoundly as my personal awakening to feminism" fifteen years ago. However, she viewed her feminism and ACA experience as distinct from each other until the term "co-dependence" was introduced into the canon.

The phrase was coined initially to represent men and women who were involved with lovers or family members addicted to alcohol or narcotics. It has since taken on a broader definition as behavior that supports another person's more obviously destructive patterns. Hagen zeros in on the definition proposed by Robert Subby, a family-systems therapist well-known in the co-dependence field. He describes it as:

An emotional, psychological and behavioral condition that develops as a result of an individual's prolonged exposure to and practice of a set of oppressive rules which prevent an open expression of feeling.

Hagen goes on to dissect this definition, focusing on the word "oppressive," and attempts to re-define "co-dependency" according to the tenants of feminism. She concludes that "co-dependence" is a euphemism for internalized oppression in intimate relationships.

Internalized oppression occurs when the subordinate takes in the beliefs of the dominator. The dominant group defines meaning, morality and value, permeating society with images, institutions, structures, laws and customs which re-enforce these definitions.

In this way we come up with such social distortions as gay people being "narrow" while heterosexuals are "universal" or lesbians live in "a ghetto" while straight women live in "the world." Hagen posits that "co-dependency" is a more acceptable and benign term than "internalized oppression" even though they share many of the same definitions. For example, a woman who defers her needs to the needs of men, defines herself in relation to others, sees herself as a victim, denies her own feelings, is "a woman perfectly socialized into a male-supremacist society." Such a woman knows that defying these behavioral limitations means being punished in a wide range of ways from physical abuse to being ignored or shut down. Calling this condition "co-dependency" is a de-politicizing use of the language.

Co-dependence is no accident. Nor is it a disease, nor an individual character disorder.... When we do not recognize the relationship co-dependency has to the dominant culture we risk falling prey to another aspect of our training in which we accept personal responsibility...in a culture of dominance, (where) the oppressed is always at fault.

The book *Co-Dependent No More* by Marie Beattie is now finishing up two years on the best sellers' list. Critical literature on the subject has only begun to appear. Hagen's slim leaflet is a strong foundation for a much larger discussion that will inevitably surface wherever gay people fight only their personal "disease" and not the culture's as well.

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PERSONALADS

GB & BRITISH
GBM, age 30, 5'11", 135 lbs., lonely in NY seeks GWM top with or w/out moustache. Honesty more important than looks. No games or drugs. Write box 149, NY, NY 10185.

SUPERHUNG WM,
35, good looks, average build, looking for guys hung super long or thick for safe fun. I'm in midtown and am very discreet. Scott, Box 6559, NYC, NY 10163.

DHB-DECENT HUMAN BEING
wants to share happy times and not so happy ones with another DHB. Not into drugs/smoking. I've been told I'm handsome, caring, sensitive, sensual and hot. I'm 6'172/LtBr/LtBr, 33, trim, smooth, muscular build. Prefer GWM, 20-28, "boyish" and cute and wants to grow. Enjoy conversation, museums, beach, work-outs at gym, Off-Broadway plays and safe hot love-making. Send detailed letter w/ photo/age/ phone; Box 5432, Flushing, NY 11354. This may be our chance for a great future together.

REGULAR GUY
GWM, 38, seeks similar for relationship. Avg looks/build, decent, stable, shy. Like theatre, classical music, blonds. Closet Romantic, more turned on by chest size than cock. Honest letter and photo(a must!) to P.O. Box 3182, Ridgewood, NY 11386.

I'LL TAKE MANHATTAN!

Californian, GM, 25, bl/bl, sensual, moustached, intellectual, mature, non-attitudinous, romantic for days, self-aware but not self-absorbed seeks Manhattanite, 25-35, with similar qualities for whatever develops. Any race or health status. No closet cases or Republicans, please. Letter, phone to Outweek Box 1169

LITTLE BROTHER
Write home! GW couple 30 (6', blonde, 160) & 34 (6'1", hairy, 185) both very hand-

some, loving, fun, & HIV- seek younger kid brother for fun and sensuous nights at home and on the town. We can offer emotional support (no \$), hot times, affection, & some "home cooking". You are huggable, hot, healthy, handsome (& together). Photo/phone (Don't tell Mom!) to: POB 1955, NYC 10025.

UNIQUE OPPURTUNITY

How would you like to strip, kneel before me, and place yourself under my direction? Am looking for someone who knows his place (bottom) and who is obedient. You must be willing to do as you're told. Your stats are unimportant to me-your attitude isn't. If willing to explore, write to POBox 292, NYC 10024.

SERIOUS FUN
w/ GWM, 32, 5'10", very slim, long brown hair. Reasonably attractive, reasonably intelligent, outrageous sense of humor. Passions include films, books, dramatic landscapes, spicy food, lively conversation, long kisses. Seeking facsimile of soulmate, 28-40, ideally slim, clean-shaven and sexy (I know it's subjective, but we can explore the matter.) Ph/ph to: Outweek Box 1172

LESBIAN WANTED
Tall, good looking, healthy, straight WM, 35, seeks lesbian or lesbian couple for adventurous sex. Will do whatever to please. Interested? Outweek Box 1174

BROADWAY BABY
Attractive, furry, cuddly, GWM, 41, 5'9", 170lbs., Br/Br, w/stache, seeks special, affectionate guy, 30ish-50ish, for friendship/possible relationship to take in the new Broadway, Off B'way seasons together. You love musicals (maybe even collect original cast albums), and enjoy comedy, drama, cabaret, too. Also like country walks, brunch, music, film, etc. If interested write w/phone and photo (if

possible) to: P.O. Box 2509, Times Square Station New York, NY 10108.

possible) to: P.O. Box 2509, Times Square Station New York, NY 10108.

PASSIONATE
about great literature, ballet, classical music, safe sex, theatre, film, intellectual chat. GWM, 29, 5'9", 155 #, Bl/grey, seeking that sincere someone who can be added to the list of passions. Letter with description of yourself and your reasons for being should elicit a response. Please include a phone number. Photo optional. Outweek Box 1176

GF, 39, SEEKS
mail order bride. Must be cultured, intelligent, with a good sense of humor. No Holly Near fans. Outweek Box 1178

MALE/MAIL ART
exchange. Your hot male images (drawings, collages, etc.) get a fistful from P.O. Box 447, New York NY 10012. Let's have fun, guys!

WOODSIDE PUSSY
57", 210 lbs., 45 years old, GM, loves to suck cock and get fucked with bags by black and white guys 30-60. Not necessary to be handsome or slim/trim. Bi, married o.k. I'm HIV negative/safe. Write desires to: P.O. Box 4547, L.I. City, NY, 11104.

NIHON
Japanese boyfriend wanted by GWM- 27, tall, dark, slim, smooth, soft-spoken individual, long-haired, creative musician learning Japanese. Aimasho Ka? Outweek Box 1145

GWM, 38, RUNNER, VEGETARIAN
loves art, music, outdoors, travel, HIV(-). Seeks GBM, 25-35, healthy, with similar interests to seek and share mutual physical, emotional, and spiritual growth. No drugs/ booze/cigarettes. Photo/ letter please. Outweek Box 1182

SINCERE GM PROFESSIONAL
healthy 20- sought by handsome GM Kyotoite, 35, 5'11", 160 for monogamous relationship, any race.

Ph/ph to P.O. Box 1502, New York, NY 10185.

LOOK NO FURTHER
GWM, experienced friend and lover seeking same. I'm easy-going, sensitive, romantic, intelligent and witty. 44 years young, 5'7", 142 lbs. Beautiful blue eyes, curly brown hair, moustache. I'm sensual, sexually versatile and into safer sex. Interested in perf. arts, film. Photo/letter gets mine. Box 2004, NYC 10009.

WOODSTOCK
changed my life. I'm 45, 6', 185, professional, warm, intelligent and like blues and bicycling, rock and reading, movies and theatre. Looking for 30ish, bright, loving, attractive man. P.O. Box 325-0, NYC 10108.

CULTURED GWM,
26, European seeking GF for friendship and possible marriage. Both can be mutually convenient. Outweek Box 1144

BUILD A NEST?
GWM, 43, 5'10", 160 lbs., generally considered intelligent and humorous with wide range of skills and interests, reasonably successful, lots of good friends but currently without the capstone, that special someone. Seeking a partner interested in the slow explorations, joys and agonies of building a nest. Let's start communicating and see where it leads. Outweek Box 1145

BARK LIKE A DOG
GWM, 34, who barks like a dog on all fours and eats from a dog's dish. Send phone number, P.O. Box 266 NYC 10002.

FANTASY?
I want 2 B crazy in love. I'm tall, dark, handsome, smart, good gymbody. So what's the problem? I'm 52 in an ancient, dry relationship and have fetish for very attractive men with no facial hair. If you're 25-40, into SS sans poppers and you've always wanted a P/T Daddy, send photo/

phone to Box 1114 Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10011.

MUTUAL BENEFITS
Companionship sought for physical and intellectual stimulation by attr WM, 44, 6'1", cosmopolitan show-biz executive. Seek W/M, 23-29 (taller than 5'8"), clean-shaven, good body/mind. Graduate students, actors, professionals-offer dinners, Broadway shows, theatre. Expect truth. Sex (safe). Travel possible. Ph/ph, P.O. Box 8324, New York, NY 10150-1918.

STUCK LIKE A PIG
Let this 24 yr. old hot farm boy use his farm tools to work you into a frenzy so I can hear you squeal. Send letter with a good description of yourself and describe how you would like to be breeded. Outweek Box 1149

NEED A SPANKING?
Attractive guy, 43, 6', 160 lbs., will put you across his knee, pull down your pants-and underpants--and spank your bare bottom till you promise to behave. Am into fantasy-- not pain. Good with beginners. Box 1316 FDR Station, NYC 10150. Seek trim guys only.

GUPPIE
26 year old GWM attempting to live the yuppie lifestyle. 6'2", 175, blondish hair, beard and moustache. Non-smoker, healthy, in-shape. Considered to be good-looking, romantic, stable, professional. Seekin GM, 28-40 with similar qualities for quiet dinners, movies, etc...Please send letter including photo and phone number. Outweek Box 1152

WANTS
PATRON/CHUM
Aging writer, hairy, irascible, seeks warm-hearted, brainy, non-smoking amanuensis and/or patron/provider/slut in exchange for grudging affection, kinky vanilla sex, and glimpses of immortality. P.O. Box 1251 Canal St. Station, New York 10013.

PATIENTLY
waiting for a GWM,
35-49, attractive, educated professional/executive, serious about commitment, introspective but fun-loving with a good sense of humor, and who actually has time in his schedule to meet new people and possibly develop a relationship. I'm a GWM, 43, br/haz, 5'10", 150, glasses, gd-looking, intelligent, professional, HIV neg, Midwestern values. Try not to take myself too seriously. Write with ph/ph to Box 1858, Madison Square Station, NYC 10159.

VERY HDSM & MASC
30, 6', 160, blond, straight-acting/ appearing, successful prof, warm and verbal, Yuppy-type (w/out the attitude) with All-American looks and an irresistible smile. Enjoys the more rugged aspects of life: hiking, camping, skiing, gym-as well as the city. Seek similar prof, hdsm and masc, together guy for friendship and fun and sen-

suous times. POB 20489, NYC 10025

24 YEAR OLD GRAD STUDENT

into Shakespeare, music, and politics-seeks friend for weekend bike trips. Send letter and phone # to OurWeek Box 1133.

MUSCLEMANIA

Horny WM BB, 34, 5'7", 155#, 44c, 33w., 18a., hdsm, hthly & built like a brick seeks BB buddies for s/s, titillate and body worship. Ph/ph to Box 1165, Chelsea Station, 10011.

BODYBUILDER

5'10", 195, 42, 49c, 33w., 17a., seeks other muscle studs built like me or better for hot muscle action. Photo appreciated. Rick, 496A Hudson #H24, NYC 10014.

GWM, ITALIAN, 25
Good-looking, nice guy looking to make friends. Live on L.I., work on Wall St. Want to meet other nice guys who are interested in a sincere, discreet and caring friendship, lunches,

PERSONALS OF THE WEEK

EDUCATOR/WRITER

Lesbian Professional: 35, 5'3", slim, nice-looking, immaculate. Mature, rational, strong, responsible, yet affectionate, warm, compassionate. Would love to meet a feminine gay professional female, 27-36, who is also attractive, very slim, healthy, graceful, intelligent (a must!), responsible, honest, loving, sensitive, romantic and sentimental. No bi's. P.S. Please be 99.9% of these qualities to reply. Honesty is sacred. Note/ phone/ photo. OurWeek Box 1189.

LITTLE BROTHER

Write home! GW couple 30 (6', blonde, 160) & 34 (6'1", hairy, 185) both very handsome, loving, fun, & HIV- seek younger kid brother for fun and sensuous nights at home and on the town. We can offer emotional support (no \$), hot times, affection, & some "home cooking". You are huggable, hot, healthy, handsome (& together). Photo/phone (Don't tell Mom!) to: POB 1955, NYC 10025.

dinners, movies, walks, hanging out, or just doing nothing together. Would like to hear from all-any age, race. Married, bi o.k. too. Write with photo and phone- you've got nothing to lose-penpals o.k. P.O. Box 483 Wall St. Station, New York, NY 10268.

TWO HOT GUYS!

Good-looking white top, 33, big cut top & bottom, 29, smooth wild ass. Looking for 2 or more guys for hot sex in various combinations. Short on words, long on action. State your preference and let's get it on. Photo, phone a must. Tom, Box 950, NY, NY 10021.

CULTURED TRADE

I love to be tied up with operas and whipped into a Broadway play, or even lashed into a good movie. I must be forced to drink Margaritas and submit to fine cuisine. I need someone to discipline me with love and friendship and bring out the best in me. I will willingly reciprocate. I'm

a goodlooking GWM, 38, 6', 190 lbs., brown/brown, moustache, seeking a similar GWM. Send me your photo, phone number and a letter telling me about yourself and outlining your master plan to make me really sing! Reply to JNP, P.O. Box 39, Planetarium Station, NY, NY 10024.

BRIGHT, BLUE-EYED

Healthy, affectionate GM, 47, 5'10 1/2", 160, anxious to meet other trim GM interested in committed relationship. Enjoy music, books, performing arts. Prefer serious men with a sense of humor. Balding, o.k. Send letter, phone and photo (if possible). OurWeek Box 1100.

EVERY INCH A MAN with extra inch where it counts... plus hunky, hairy chest, magic nips, solid 6', 185 lbs., very young 44. Hot, hdsm big brother/ top pal/ protector/ defender/ rescuer/ teacher/ lover & more. Seek special guy 20-38 to share life, laughs, hugs, NYC fantasies plus waterfront dream-

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seeks intelligent, affectionate, goodlooking man between 25 & 35 yrs. with same interests for friendship & possible relationship. Serious please only reply. Call John (914) 988-1523. Sunday-Thursday. After 6p.m. only.

WORK MY BOTTOM OVER WITH ME

in long slow sessions. He's hot Italian BB, 30's. I'm 30's, lanky and hung. If you're attractive, hung, verbal and ready, send photo/phone to P.O. Box 150, Prince Station, NYC 10012.

A FINE CATCH
and still not hooked. Cleancut GWM, 32, 5'10", 145, developed mind and body, lusty and lustful yet warm and caring, masculine not closeted, seeks lasting companionhip. Photo/phone to OutWeek Box 1134.

GWM, WASP, 26
180 lbs., 5'11", Bi/Bl, healthy, masculine, well-built, looking for young, muscular (18-28) guys for hot safe sex (condoms). I like to be both dominant and submissive. Face-fucking, role-playing, butt-fucking, let's get it on! Also into threesomes, light bondage, trying new things. No drugs, no pain. Send note about yourself: photo appreciated. In-shape and young necessary.. OutWeek Box 1135

SERIOUS MOONLIGHT
GM, 36, 6', 145, in shape, attractive, creative, monog. radical seeks non-smoker for wild romance. Let's

howl, P.O. Box 1251, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013.

QUIRKY LESBIAN

GWF, 27, would like to meet very bright, funny woman who possesses natural femininity. Older women, please don't be shy. Please send photo, not because I'm picky but because I thoroughly enjoy fotos of folks I don't know. I'm not facetious. I'm fascinated by that which is traditionally considered boring, i.e. staring at the ceiling, reading phone books, calling pre-recorded messages and dialing international operators. Loathed When Harry Met Sally....

Write to OutWeek Box 1151

PLAYMATES WANTED

Butch-fem couple in Manhattan, ages 40 & 35, seeks lesbian singles or couples for wild fun and adventure. Join us for fantasies, erotic games, light bondage. No drugs, no pain. Outweek Box 1020

DEFINITION

Progressive hunk (34, 6', 175) with post-modern affections seeks supple articulations of body and thought—or at least former—with brawny friend(s). I enjoy dancing, activism, safe hot sex, cycling, sun, beauty, grace & all the usual stuff. Send photo and the rest to P.O. Box 1368, NY, NY 10025. Photo returned, if requested.

MILDLY KINKY

GWM, 52, attractive, 5'10", 145, versatile,

seeks hot sex, fun, relationship, friends, enjoys politics, activism, conversation, walks, travel, movies, much more. P.O. Box 173, NYC 10023.

STUDENT NEEDS HELP!

Ivy League student, gay activist, writer, really nice guy--may not be able to afford tuition. Ideas, patrons, suggestions...write soon to: AMR, 76 Undercliff, Millburn, NJ 07041.

GWM, ITALIAN, 25

Good-looking, nice guy looking to make friends. Live on L.I. work on Wall St. Want to meet other niceguys who are interested in a sincere, discreet and caring friendship, lunches, dinners, movies, walks, hanging out, or just doing nothing together. Would like to hear from all-any age, race. Married, bi, o.k. too. Write with photo and phone-- you've got nothing to lose--(penpals o.k.) P.O. Box 483 Wall St. Station, New

York, NY 10268.

DADDY ENEMAS!

Ass-play tool. Safe, gentle, sensual and erotic! I cater to shy, curious guys & beginners too. Get ready for the red, bulging bag, hose and nozzle-briefs down, bottoms up! All questions answered! Phvph. Rick P.O. Box 45 Caldwell, NJ 07006. Cum on, try one soon!

SEEKING GREAT TOP

Tall(6'4"), goodlooking bottom seeking tall top for fun times, definite adventure and passion! Me:30's, clean-shaven, brown hair-green eyes, 185, gym shape, prof. You:30's-40's, in shape, attractive, non-smoker, and passionate! Zip your letter, photo, phone to: Outweek Box 1045

GB & BRITISH
GWM, age 30, 5'11", 135 lbs., lonely in NY seeks GWM top with or without moustache. Honesty is more important than looks.

No games or drugs. Write Box 149, NYC, NY 10185.

NEW TO NYC AREA

GM Puerto Rican 27, 5'11", 210 lbs., enjoys music, quiet evenings and cuddling. Looking for friend to show me NYC, send photo and phone number to OutWeek Box 1156.

REGULAR GUY

GWM, 38, seeks similar fun relationship. Average looks/build, decent, stable, shy. Like theatre, classical music, blonds. Closet Romantic, more turned on by chest size than cock. Honest letter and photo (a must) to P.O. Box 3182, Ridgewood, NY 11386.

SUPERHUNG W/M, 35, good looks, average build, looking for guys hung super long or thick for safe fun. I'm in midtown and am very discreet. Scott, Box 6559, NYC, NY 10163.

EAT, EAT, EAT
and eat some more. I'll feed you to your

heart's delight. We will watch your belly and tits grow to perfection. Has this been your dream or fantasy? I will make it happen. I have a lot of experience in this area. Answer today with photo and phone and detailed letter. You have everything to gain. Serious replies only. P.O. Box 20053 London Terrace Station, New York, New York 10011.

EDUCATOR/WRITER

Lesbian Professional: 35, 5'3", slim, nice-looking, immaculate. Mature, rational, strong, responsible, yet affectionate, warm, compassionate. Would love to meet a feminine gay professional female, 27-36, who is also attractive, very slim, healthy, graceful, intelligent (a must), responsible, honest, loving, sensitive, romantic and sentimental. No bi's. P.S. Please be 99.9% of these qualities to reply. Honesty is sacred. Note/photo/photo. OutWeek Box 1189.

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HERZOG from page 72

attorney are appealing the "no probable cause" discrimination finding.

This week's hearing comes a year and a half after the memo initially called for such action, and, not surprisingly, Herzog is having a hard time getting witnesses to testify on her behalf. "It's like Watergate," Herzog said. "People are afraid it will jeopardize their jobs to testify." Dorman, Herzog's attorney, explained that the nature of the case makes her reluctant to subpoena witnesses on Herzog's behalf. "It is a hostile atmosphere and you can't tell people that they won't be retaliated against," she said.

Conflicts of Interest

Since this is the first EO4 case to come this far in the legal process, procedures aren't established and corporation counsel could "throw a wrench" into the works at any time based on the procedural ambiguity, according to Herzog and her lawyer. Yet the procedural questions are only one aspect of a larger problem. Herzog points to larger forces and conflicts both within the case and the city agency structure.

Barbara Gunn has moved on to bigger things, now heading up the Mayor's Office of Operations, which oversees budgeting and management of all city agencies, including the Human Rights Commission. Gunn said that there is no conflict in her mind regarding her position with the office of operations and being the chief respondent to Herzog's case. "In one way it's been a positive thing," she told *OutWeek*. "I have first-hand knowledge of the staff needs they [HRC] have."

Further thickening the quagmire are the connections between the two "opposing parties," the corporation counsel and the HRC. The corporation counsel represents city agencies, including the Human Rights Commission, in any outside dispute. In effect, the same legal team must act as prosecution and defense, undermining the traditionally adversarial relationship necessary for a proper trial.

HRC attorney Franke said there is a "manifest conflict" in this arrangement. But Corporation Counsel attor-

ney Tom Roberts said that neither agency has power over the other and that the arrangement is "necessary the way the system's set up."

But this unholy trinity has left Herzog with the feeling that justice is impossible to obtain. "As long as Koch is in power, I doubt I'll ever get a fair shake," Herzog said, noting that all the HRC commissioners as well as the two main respondents, Gunn and Parks Commissioner Stern, are all Koch appointees. She is convinced that the whole process is designed to cover up any discrimination in city agencies, rather than do away with it.

As far as the HRC goes, Herzog is frustrated, discouraged and not without an edge of cynicism. "They never intended to do anything with the claim," she said, pointing out that even after the HRC delivered its findings to Koch with lengthy recommendations, nothing happened. "The HRC does things as slowly as possible to stop people from making waves," she said.

Meanwhile, Herzog, who is \$32,000 in the hole for legal fees, doggedly continues to try to establish real meaning for the city's legislation against discrimination against gays and lesbians. If she wins, she will receive back pay for the promotions and pay increases denied her, but her legal fees are not reimbursable regardless of the outcome. "All my money is tied up in this," she said, "I can't give this up. I decided to stay and fight and that's what's driving them crazy." ▼

The hearing, going on this week at 52 Duane Street, 6th Floor, is open to the public.

AZT from page 18

drug. In light of recent findings that AZT may be used effectively by as many as 650,000 HIV infected Americans, activists also suggested that the company's market is now greatly expanded and that a price reduction would make the drug more widely available to these people.

"Interesting Numbers"

The company, however, contested those numbers.

"The difficulty we have with this is that nobody really has any hard numbers about how many people have HIV infection," stated Brown. "Those are certainly interesting numbers, but I don't know that anybody has got anything really solid that they could base all that on."

The activists contended that given the preliminary numbers, the company could make financial projections and act accordingly.

"I think everyone knows that these are soft numbers," added Levi, "but they give you a range from which they can do a worst-case scenario and then determine their price from that."

Burroughs' Brown stated that, by the end of September, the company will evaluate the numbers of people seeking HIV antibody tests and early treatment to reevaluate AZT pricing, although he made no promises about a definite timetable.

Cost and Dosage

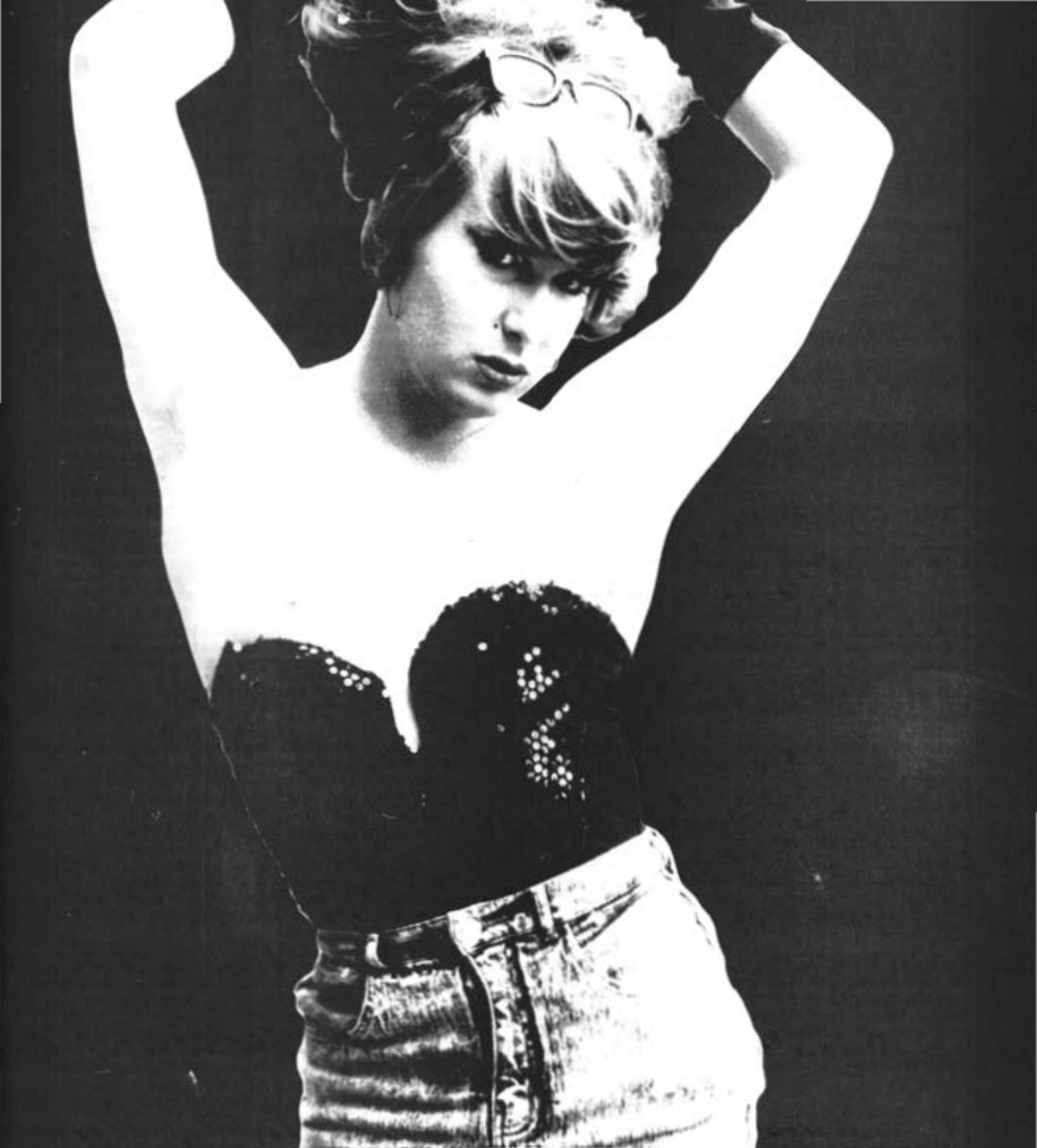
Burroughs Wellcome representatives also argued that since recent studies indicate that AZT can be equally effective at half the normal dosage level, the total cost of therapy has already been reduced substantially.

Calling that an "incredibly absurd argument" against price reduction, Levi added, "\$30 million from the federal government could help twice as many people."

Currently, activists are lobbying the Senate for an extension of a stop-gap funding program intended to provide treatment drugs to low-income AIDS patients nationwide who are not eligible for state Medicaid programs. The program in most states is expected to run out at the end of September.

Both Burroughs Wellcome and the activists left open the possibility of a future meeting, although the activists were cynical that they would be interested in making the trip to Raleigh without assurances that the company was ready to make a price reduction.

"It really comes down to a lowering of the price," said Barr. "There are other issues we can discuss with Burroughs Wellcome, but not until the price comes down." ▼



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TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 12

DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES TODAY!

YALE GAY AND LESBIAN ALUMNI/AE presents Jim Seymour, expert on Tibet and China, discussing Amnesty International and Chinese politics concerning Tibet and student activism (the Beijing massacre was 100 days ago today); at Columbia University's Earl Hall; 7:30 pm; member info 724-9113

WNET-TV/13 "Other Faces of AIDS," examining the background and impact of AIDS in America's minority communities; 8 pm (also broadcast in Spanish, Saturday, 9/16)

CELLBLOCK 28 Leather Party with Hands-On Pre-Juctions, safe-sex party; 28 Ninth Ave (below 14th St); 8 pm - 3 am; \$10; 733-3144

WOMEN'S COUPLE DANCING Classes Begin for an 8-week series including Swing, Cajun, Schottische, Two-Step, more; no partner needed; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8:15-9:15 pm; \$10 per class/\$64 for eight classes; 718/972-7366

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13

HARLEM WEEK OF PRAYER ON AIDS Individual AIDS Awareness Workshops in Harlem Churches; info 862-5970

FOUNDATION FOR THE SELF-HEALING AIDS-RELATED EXPER-

IMENT (SHARE) Free Introductory Evening, in anticipation of the Sept. 20-24 Who Heals program for discovering the "healer within"; with Niro, founding director of SHARE who reversed her HIV status from positive to negative, and Amitabh (Robert Birnbaum, PH.D. in clinical psychology UC, Berkeley), transformational therapist and healer; at 441 Lafayette St; 7:30-9:30 pm; 460-8074

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Eroticizing Safer Sex Workshop, to learn the how-to's of playing more safely while meeting other men; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8-10 pm; free, no registration required; 807-6655, TDD 645-7470

SCRABBLE PLAYERS CLUB Game Night; newcomers asked to bring a board; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8-11 pm; 570-9369

A DIFFERENT LIGHT BOOKSTORE presents Christopher Bram, reading from his third novel, *In Memory of Angel Clare*, 548 Hudson St (btwn Charles and Perry); 8 pm; free (limited seating); 989-4850

RIDICULOUS THEATRICAL COMPANY presents the opening of *Big Hotel* by Charles Ludlum, with and directed by Everett Quinton, "an evening of lust, intrigue, and mayhem in the lobby and environs of The Big Hotel"; at One Sheridan Square; 8 pm; will play six weekends (through 10/22), WED-SUN at 8 pm, extra show every SAT at 11 pm; info 989-6524, tix 691-2271

MUSICAL THEATRE WORKS presents the opening of *Midsummer Nights*, in which "luscious California girls and muscular beach boys abound on surf board and motorcycle, all to a rollicking rock 'n roll score and a script not at all faithful to Shakespeare's"; at Theatre at St. Peter's Church, 54 St & Lexington Ave; 8 pm; \$20; 688-6022 (through Oct. 1; Tues-Sun at 8 pm, Sat & Sun matinee at 3 pm)

VILLAGE BOWLING LEAGUE Tournament, with 22 4-person teams, social/competitive; at Bowlmor Lanes, 110 University Place; 8:30 pm; info 873-0154 (eves), lanes 255-8188

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS Welcome Back Meeting, to share summer stories and make plans for the coming year; at the Center, 3rd Floor, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm; \$5; 727-9878

STEPHEN HOLT SHOW Interviews Charles Busch on His Bed, on Manhattan Cable TV Channel 17D, 9 pm (repeats on Paragon, 9/16)

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: *Rocky Horror Show*; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14

CENTER'S NATIONAL MUSEUM OF LESBIAN AND GAY HISTORY Photographic Exhibition: *Transformations: Cross-Dressers and Those Who Love Them*, Mariette Pathy Allen's photographs which caused the NY Post terrible angst even before they'd heard of Robert Mapplethorpe; opens today, through Oct. 31; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 620-7310 (Allen will appear with a panel discussion on 9/28)

CENTER STAGE sees Tennessee Williams' *Orpheus Descending*, with Vanessa Redgrave; at the Neil Simon Theatre; 8 pm; \$48; 620-7310

CELLBLOCK 28 Hot Ash Party, at the private safe-sex leatherman's and J.O. club; 28 9th Ave (btwn 13 & 14 St); 8 pm - 3 am; \$10; 733-3144

VILLAGE BOWLING LEAGUE Tournament, with 22 doubles teams, money league; at Bowlmor Lanes, 110 University Place; 8:30 pm; info 873-0154 (eves), lanes 255-8188

prepared by Rick X
with information from
The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of
New York

For more information or referrals, to
rap, or to volunteer, call the GLSB
daily, noon to midnight, 212-777-1800

PYRAMID CLUB presents Thursdays at the Queer-Amid, with host Ru-Paul, rock and funk music by DJ Rick Sugden, special acts Pebbles and the Beach and Tabool; 101 Avenue A (btwn 6 & 7 Sts); dancing from 10 pm - 4 am, shows at midnight and 1 am; \$5; 420-1590

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION Singles' Tea, for PWAs, PWAs, HIV+; 222 W 11 St, 3-5:30 pm; 532-0568

ASSEMBLERS TO ADORE THE SPIRIT OF THE GOD/DESS join for a Full Moon Ritual and Meditation at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7-7:30 pm; \$1 (for the Center); 620-7310

STATIONS COLLECTIVE Tribute to Pat Parker, an evening of music and readings by and about the pioneering Black lesbian writer; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7 pm; \$4; 718/638-6415

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER Consciousness Raising Sessions: Racism and Sexism in Lesbian and Gay Organizations; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:45 pm; 222-9794, 245-6366

CONFERENCE FOR CATHOLIC LESBIANS CENTER GROUP presents Dr. Elisabeth Koenig, speaking about Julian of Norwich, a 14th century anchoress (hermit), known as a contemplative and spiritual guide; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8-10 pm; \$10; 718/353-7323

A DIFFERENT LIGHT BOOKSTORE presents Martha Barron Barrett, discussing her latest book, *Invisible Lives*, compiled from over 120 interviews of women-loving women; 548 Hudson St (btwn Charles and Perry); 8 pm; free (limited seating); 989-4850

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 16

CREATIVE FAIRES, LTD. New York Renaissance Festival, open today and Sunday (final day); featuring *All's Well That Ends Well* on the Globe Stage, *Tales of the Decameron* on the Harlequin Stage, and *Tales of Robin Hood and The Queen's Folly* which "unfold around you"; Renaissance foods and crafts, dancers and gypsies, witches coven, specialty acts, a living chess game, "trial and punishment," costume contests are some of the featured attractions; in Sterling Forest, reachable via Short Line Bus from Port Authority (736-4700), lv NYC 10:15 am, lv Sterling Forest 6:15 pm; \$12 adults/\$10 seniors/\$5 kids age 6-12; info 914/351-5171 (*Editor's note*: gays and lesbians have been welcomed by the Festival's press office even though homosexuality was a capital offense throughout this period)

CENTER KIDS Outing In Westchester County, at the home of one of the members, for lesbian and gay parents and their children; RSVP by 9/14, 620-7510

WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK Crafts and Antiques Fair; 764-6330

WOMEN ABOUT Asamu Noguado Garden Museum trip; 353/0073, 201/481-0440

STEPHEN HOLT SHOW Interviews **Charles Busch on His Bed**, Manhattan Cable and Paragon Cable Channel 16C, 11:30 am

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Workshop, to "reaffirm the importance of safer sex, and feel confident about saying yes, whether you're into casual sex or serious dating, and no matter what your HIV status is"; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; noon - 6 pm; register 806-6655, TDD 645-7470

ACT-UP/LONG ISLAND Demonstration of Outrage for Homeless PWAs in Nassau County, at Lydia Hall, Freeport, LI; 1 pm (press conference at 2 pm); 516/338-4662, 516/997-5238

SAGE Lavender and Lace Social; at the Lesbian and Gay Synagogue, 57 Bethune St (in the

Westbeth Complex, near West St); 1-5 pm; members \$8/non-members \$10; member info 741-2247

CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN Shabbat Spiritual Gathering for people with AIDS and their loved ones; luncheon, music, conversation, study, worship service; 257 W 88 St; 2 pm; free; 787-7600 (also 10/28, 11/18, 12/16)

WNET-TV/13 "Otras caras del SIDA," en español, examinando los problemas de las minoridades en los EE.UU. en cuanto al epídemio del SIDA (AIDS); 2-3 pm

NONSMOKING LESBIAN NETWORK Dinner and Show, 718/998-2536 till 10 pm

GAY & LESBIAN UNION AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY Back to School Dance, with DJ Karin Ward; Loeb Student Center's Elsner & Lubin Auditorium, 566 LaGuardia Place (off Wash. Sq. South); 9 pm to 1 am (doors close at midnight); photo ID needed to enter, \$5 general/\$3 student ID/free to NYU students; 998-4938

GAY ACTIVIST ALLIANCE IN MORRIS COUNTY 17th Anniversary Celebrations: Under the Big Top, with food and dancing; at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd, Morristown, NJ; 8 pm to midnight; \$15 (by advance ticket only); 201/285-1595

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 17

CREATIVE FAIRES, LTD. New York Renaissance Festival, final day (see Saturday, Sept. 16)

WOMEN ABOUT Horseback riding In Pompton Plains, NJ; 353/0073, 201/481-0440

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK Homecoming Sunday, beginning the year with two worship services every Sunday; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, 10 am; and, as before, at 135 W 4 St (east of 6th Ave), 7 pm; child care/Sunday school offered at 7 pm service; 242-1212 22; \$50; register 431-7777

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OW13

RECKLESS continued from page 58

three lonely Parisian women, one of whom feeds and houses him, and of course falls in love with him. Barbino's ingratitude to them borders on the insane, yet they continue to fawn over him, and are tearful when he abruptly ditches them to head over to England.

There is at first glance a frightening quality to someone like Barbino who has become so worldly at such a young age. But as Aldo Busi demonstrates, Barbino conceals great passion, sensitivity and idealism. Moreover, Barbino is able to see himself with a clarity and ingenuousness that few wouldn't envy. "I have never for an instant wished to be anyone other than myself," Barbino says, coming as close to a personal revelation as he ever makes. And thanks to Aldo Busi, while one must acknowledge that it would be disastrous to know an individual like Barbino in real life, it has been a marvelous reading experience to have encountered such a tormented—and tormenting—youth. ▼

RELENTLESSLY SO continued from page 56

vengeance. For Dietz, the personal and professional finally blur together when he (wearing the police jacket of Buck's father) kills Buck in his own living room and receives gratitude, not only from the viewing public and his own family, but from Buck himself. Personally addressed to Dietz, Buck's last telephone directory message reads "Thank you."

While this film might frighten some viewers into keeping their phone numbers and addresses unlisted, I find it frightening for slightly different reasons. It is not simply that the film masks police violence as family protection, or that the film imagines the police as a family—which parents not only law and order, but crime itself—but moreover that this police family maintains order by imagining not only criminals, but the police themselves, to be everywhere. How perfectly logical then that the police surveillance unit—which hopes to entrap Buck—jokingly describes him at one point as "a government official waiting for a homosexual ren-

dezvous." The police machinery which protects the family by entrapping psychopaths not surprisingly turns out to be the same machinery which preserves the family by entrapping gays and lesbians. ▼

OUT OF CONTROL from page 36

into past fiscal misconduct is undertaken. Character assassinations are planned and discussed. No one attends Carol Greitzer's workshop on littering.

As usual, it is the opposition that unifies the disorder. Ted Koppel phones and says he is coming to our conference. Ted Koppel from *Nightline*. Oh my god. He wants to interview us for one of those comic-relief-from-global-disaster segments. Microphones are stationed. Cameras are focused. The conference, for once is stilled. We lick our lips.

"So all you folks think you are mayors of New York City," chortles Ted Koppel, in his comfortable, masculine way.

The hall echoes as thousands of outcast voices respond in unison: "That's right, Ted."

"Oh, come on, you people. You had your chance at the polls."

"No we didn't, Ted."

"Look. Fun's fun, but there is only one mayor of New York City. It's in the City Charter."

"We changed the City Charter, Ted."

Ted Koppel seems hurt and angry. He steps out of character. "Why, you people aren't comic relief—you're—you're *rude*. Racial minorities, homosexuals, welfare cases, immigrants, ecology nuts: Grow up! Our democratic electoral system will continue to provide jobs, justice, freedom and dignity for everyone, just as it has for generations."

"Not while we're mayor, Ted!"

Ted Koppel goes away mad, and we don't get to be on *Nightline*.

And all of us mayors are left to reflect on the awesome responsibilities that lie before us. Because, by the time you read this, none of us will have been elected mayor. Yet. ▼

JUST SAY NO from page 43

ing people of different ages, races, sexual orientations.

Resistance takes many forms. Working the system *does not* imply subscribing to the institution. If we play into their schemes, we encourage the same ideological principles which govern our oppression, our invisibility, and the violence against us as lesbians. You tell mom that you're just like her, that you're married, that she doesn't have to accept lesbians or lesbianism, but if she can just see herself in your pseudo-heterosexual, familial scenario, everything will be all right. That leaves the rest of us lesbians to be seen as difficult, unacceptable, disease-spreading, sex-crazed, pathological, unstable, adolescent, unfocused, unsuccessful, slutty perverts. Instead of the same old, predictable "validations" on their terms, we should use our gender socialization as the basis for critique and challenge.

One last point on the "inside-out approach" for people who want the benefits heteros enjoy when they tie the knot. It is a fact that thousands of queers got "married" at the mass wedding in October, 1987, Washington, D.C. and others are doing it in individualized, private settings with alternative rituals and personal input on the vows. So, what about health insurance and other "benefits" of being married? The state certainly makes provisions for people who follow their rules. But, remember, lesbian marriage is not in any way sanctioned or legally legitimized by the state. You say, "There's domestic partnership now in some parts of Wisconsin, Maryland, and California. That must be a radical thing, I mean, Ronald Lauder's against it." Koch's admirable (but miserably late, slimy and politically motivated) support for bereavement leave aside, the health insurance stuff is a basic problem of the economic system in this country. For example, if we had socialized medicine, everyone would be guaranteed health care, in which case the "benefits" rationalization becomes mute. God forbid I would have to be monogamous to be treated in a hospital. Our system was built to be dismantled; we can always get around it. ▼

BEST BETS

(for finding other gays and lesbians to dance with)

MEN & WOMEN

MONDAY

Private Eyes 12 W 21 St. 206-7770 (preppie; male strippers, 2-4-1 till midnight)

TUESDAY

***Love Machine** Broadway at 17 St. 254-4005 (at the Underground)

Tracks 531 W 19 St. 627-2333

WEDNESDAY

Club Lafayette 428 Lafayette St. (Scott Currie & R. Couri Hay)

Private Eyes 12 W 21 St 206-7770 (Dallas and Sanker's CLUB BAD)

Spectrum 802 64 St. Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (free admission all night)

THURSDAY

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl 674-7959 (has a new wave drag show)

***Copacabana** 10 E 60 St 755-0610 (last Thu. of the month has Susanne Bartsch party)

***Pyramid** 101 Ave A 420-1590 (Queer-Amid)

Spectrum 802 64 St Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (free admission all night)

FRIDAY

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl. 674-7959

Columbia Dances Earl Hall, 116 St & B'way 854-3574 (1st Friday of every month)

Funk, Inc. 428 Lafayette St.

Private Eyes 12 W 21 st. 206-7770 (preppies and young professionals)

Spectrum 802 64 St Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (m/f strippers)

Tracks 531 W 19 St. 627-2333

SATURDAY

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl. 674-7959

The Center 208 W 13 St. 620-7310 (2nd and 4th Saturdays) resuming 9/23

Private Eyes 12W 21 St. 206-7770 (Club Chicago for Men, preppies)

Sound Factory 530 W. 27 St. 643-0728 (non-alcohol, House music)

Spectrum 802 64 St Brooklyn 718/238-8213 (guest performer night)

SUNDAY

***Mars** Westside Highway at 13 St. 691-6262 (Chip Duckett's "Mars Needs Men" night)

***Pyramid** 101 Ave A 420-1590 (Hapi Phace and Drag + Variety Show)

Spectrum 802 64 St. 718/238-8213 (show; free admission)

EVERY NIGHT

Monster 80 Grove St. at Sheridan Square 924-3557

* (TVs welcome)

WOMEN

TUESDAY

Hatfield's 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, Queens 718/261-8484

WEDNESDAY

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Road, West Hempstead, LI 516/486-9516

THURSDAY

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Road, West Hempstead, LI 516/486-9516

FRIDAY

Bedrock (West Hempstead, LI)

Cheeks 2000 Long Beach Rd. Island Park, LI 516-431-5700

Octagon 555 W 33 St 947-0400 (Shescape, 645-6479)

Tracks 531 W 19 St. 627-2333 (last Friday of month)

Visions 56-01 Queens Blvd. Woodside 718/846-7131

SATURDAY

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd., West Hempstead 516-486-9516

Silver Lining 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Pk, LI 516/354-9641 (a.k.a. "The Lining")

Starz 836 Grand Blvd., Deer Park, LI 516/242-3857

SUNDAY

Bedrock (West Hempstead, LI)

EVERY NIGHT

Cubby Hole, 438 Hudson Street 243-9079

Duchess II, Sheridan Square 242-1408

All Phone numbers are area code 212 unless otherwise indicated.

NOTE:

Party events are subject to change.

Send corrections/additions to:

Rick X

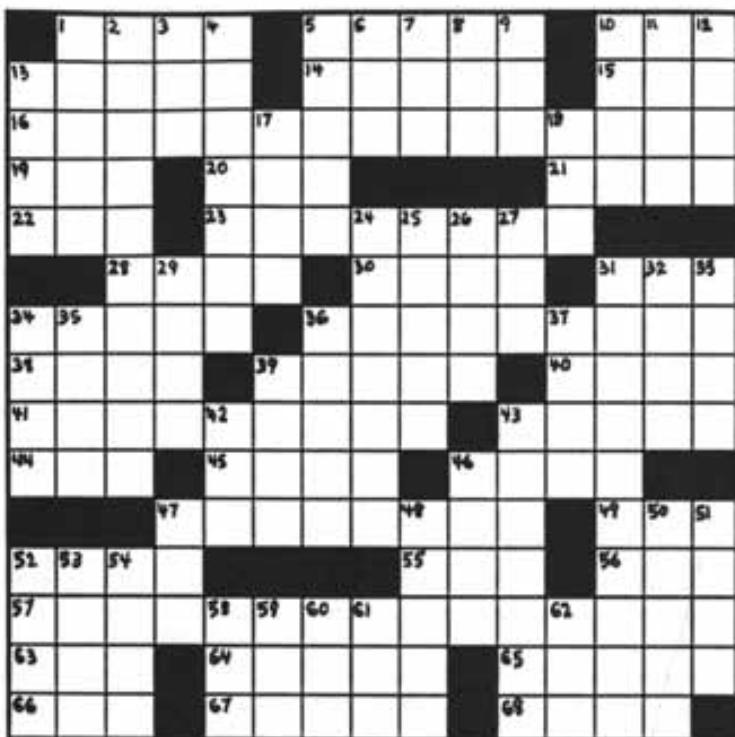
Box 790

NY, NY 10108

OutWeek Crossword

by Phil Greco

Edited by Gabriel Rotello



SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK ON SALE TUESDAY

ACROSS

1. Beame and Lincoln
5. Koch, e.g.
10. Cup
13. Britten's *The Turn Of The*
14. Love
15. _____ Holliday
16. Painting by Michelangelo
19. NOW goal
20. Infant
21. Merkel, et al
22. Stir fry utensil
23. Cocteau's _____ of a Poet
28. Margarine
30. Actress Anderson
31. Gerald Ford slogan
34. _____ sex
36. Noel Coward extravaganza
38. Unbutton
39. Talisman
40. War god
41. Novel by Willa Cather
43. Nursery rhyme Jack
44. _____ *Anything*
45. Black, to Shakespeare

46. American Indian
47. Baldwin's *Tell Me How Long
The Train's* ____ (2 wds)
49. Stein's first novel
52. Identical
55. Brook
56. Geller
57. Book by Baldwin
63. Purpose
64. Wilde's *The Importance of
Earnest*

DOWN

- 1. Colorless, comb. form
- 2. Book by Colette
- 3. Moray
- 4. Fly _____
- 5. Finish
- 6. Part of speech (abbr.)
- 7. *Damned If _____ Don't*
- 8. Fort

9. Area (abbr.)
 10. South Yemen capital
 11. Da Vinci's _____ Lisa
 12. Woolf's *Between the _____*
 13. Seethe
 17. Village neighbor
 18. "Here's _____ in your eye"
 24. Charging
 25. "I _____ parade"
 26. Biblical character
 27. Lubricate
 29. Actor Ames
 31. Britten piece
 32. Bee Gee's album
 33. Eagle's _____
 34. Totals
 35. Musical about Anastasia
 36. _____ law
 37. Guitar accessory
 39. Ear section
 42. _____ shirt
 43. Loud orator
 46. Black stone
 47. Prior to (abbr.)
 48. Cassini's namesakes
 50. Bombeck, et al
 51. *They _____ With Their Books On*
 52. Hunk, e.g.
 53. Charlie Chan's comment
 54. *Going To _____ The Man*
 58. Huge multinational
 59. Variant of reus
 60. One, to Roehm
 61. Compass dir.
 62. Prefix with dent or cot

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

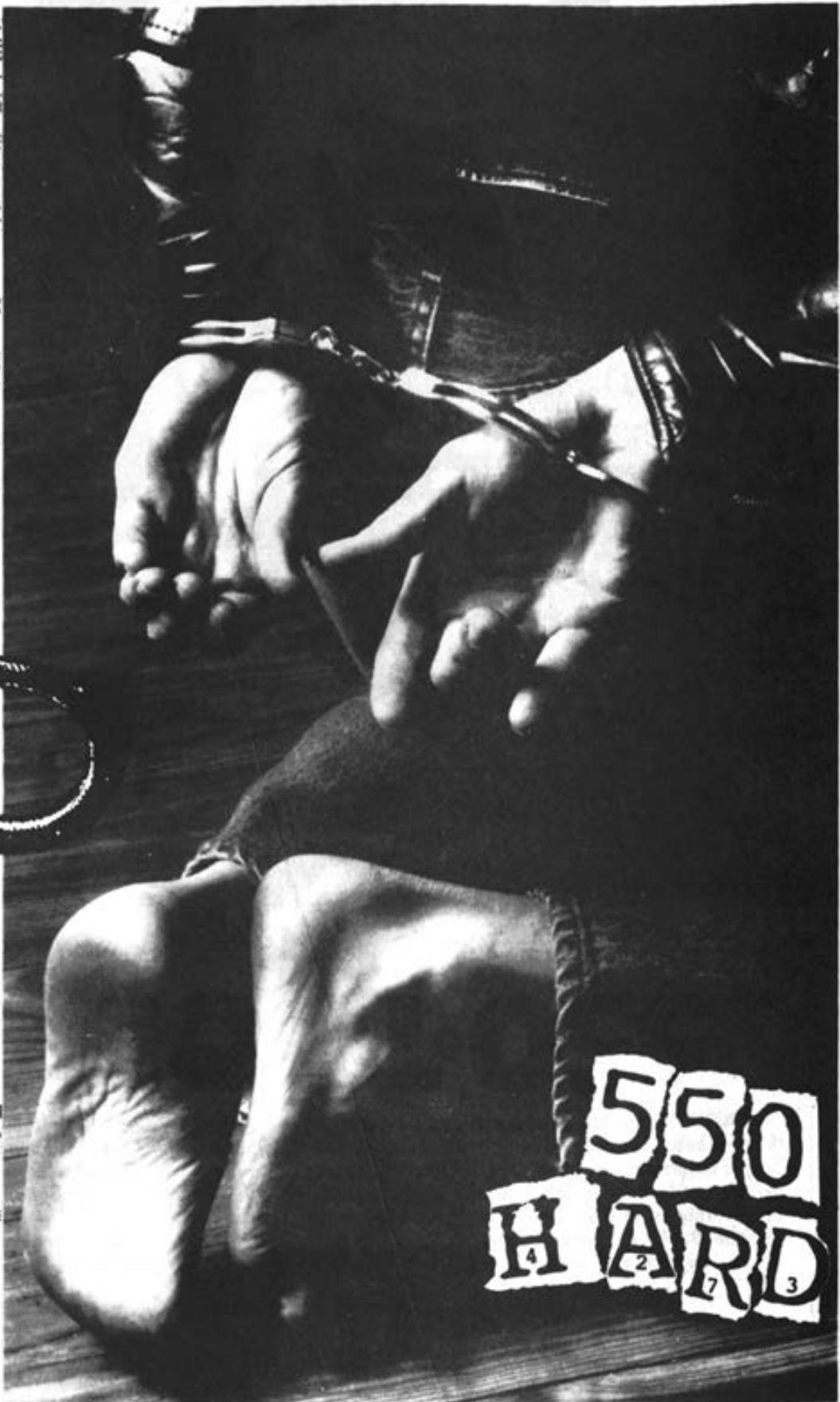
ISSUE 4.12



HardCore To
Domination OR Is
Bondage UNIT 10
HOT WAX Chains W
HANDcuffs B&D L
Glory Hole FIST
Slave BOOTS FF
MILITary Heavy t

NDGE
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H B Tion T
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Hot Shot

by Erich Conrad

Photo by Lizzerd Souffle



TASTY TIM, worldwide club celebrity, DJ and one of the most beautiful tidbits on earth, can currently be seen in Lynn Redgrave's new film *Getting It Right*. Tasty guards the doors at London's hottest new club "Kinky Gerlinky," the monthly event that 'drags' out the best of London nightlife. But he also loves New York, particularly drink tickets, late hours and very large cocktails.

Tasty is currently working on the new disco sensation *Storm*. Essential statistics we know you can't live without are: Fave color - pink gin; top role model - Karen Carpenter; and hot vacation spot - the Betty Ford Clinic.

In a world starving for beauty, Tasty Tim is everything from soup to nuts. Enjoy!



Gay Cable Network

Thursdays

10:30 pm

Pride & Progress

- Gay Week in Review
- Act-Up
- GCN Close-Up
- Sports
- Lavender Health

11:00 pm

The Right Stuff

- Naming Names
- All About Women
- Media Watch
- Staying Out
- Around the Country

Sundays

11:30 pm

Men & Films

Reviews of male erotica along with interviews behind the scenes with film stars

September 14

From Campaign Headquarters of Tom Duane & Dave Taylor on Primary Eve.

Mondays

10:00 pm

Be My Guest

Sybil Bruncheon hosts a panel game show with surprise guests.
Frankie Loves Johnny An original gay soap opera.

September 17

Jake Corbin Rides Bareback

September 18

Sybil Bruncheon Meets The Joker
Episode #14
The Conclusion



Gay Cable Network

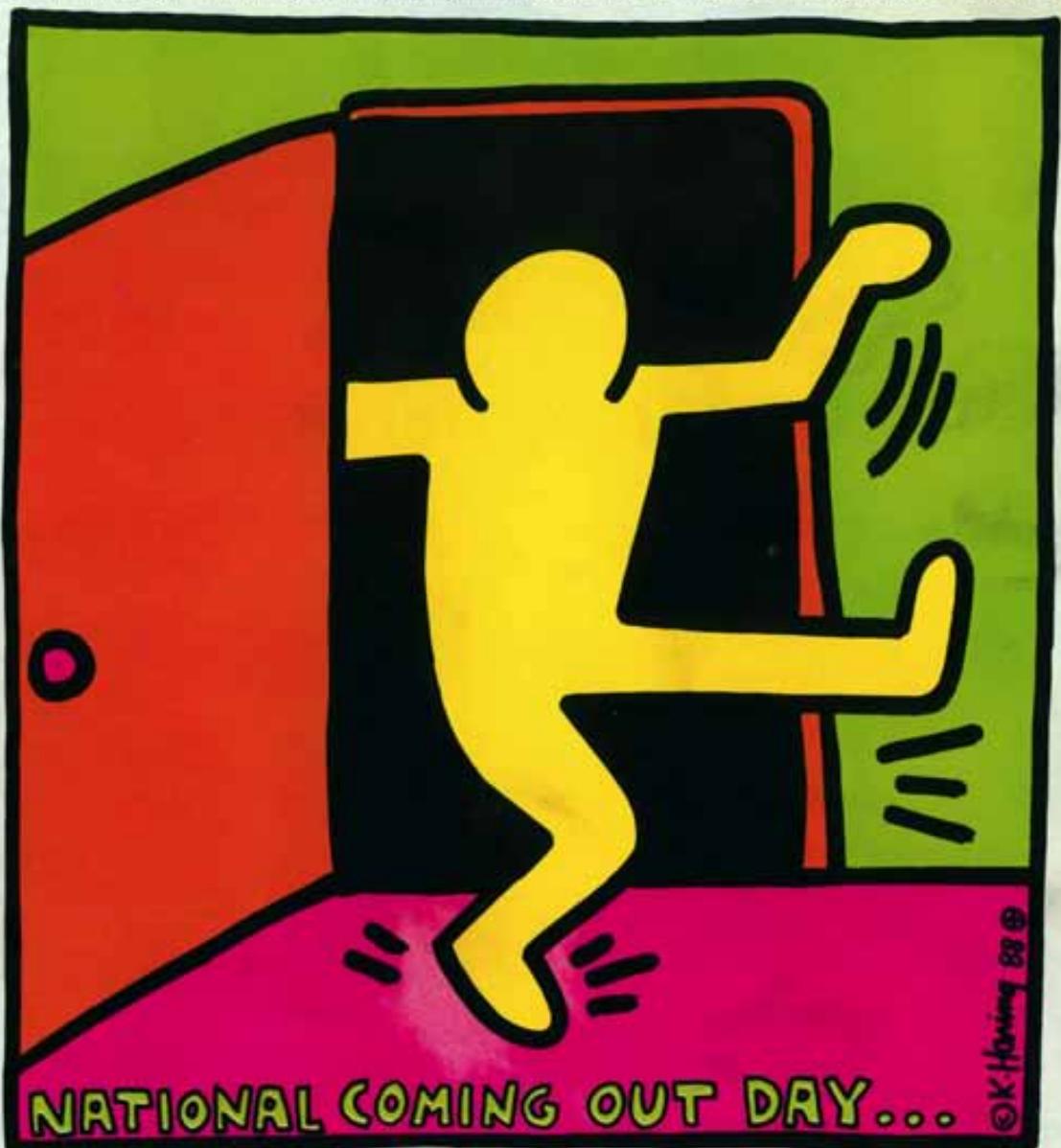
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Cleve Jones • Robin Tyler • Sally Fisher, Creator the AIDS Mastery • River City Democratic Club, Sacramento • Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Assembly at Microsoft • MECLA • The Experience Seattle • Morris Kight • National Gay & Lesbian Spirituality Conference, Oct. 6, 7, 8, Washington DC • The Experience San Francisco • Harvey Fierstein •

Rev. Troy Perry, Founder Metropolitan Community Churches • Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. • The Advocate • Gays and Lesbians in Unity • National Gay Rights Advocates • Flamingo Freedom Bank (Florida) • Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center of Los Angeles • National Gay and Lesbian Task Force • Elizabeth Nolin • Speaking of Lesbians • Jeff Leal • Vivian Shapiro • Tom Soddard • Pat Norman • Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund • Susan McGraw/

David Manner • Eric Boles • Virginia Apuzzo • Harry Hay • Jim Hormel • Torte Osborn • Mobilization Against AIDS • Human Rights Campaign Fund • Unrash Ward • Robin Tyler • Rita Mae Brown • Vic Basile • Tim McGehee • Paul Froman, Ph.D. • Pioneer Pride Festival, Oct 7, 8, RTD Park and Ride Lot, Studio City •



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